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We regret to express our inability for the several inaccuracies left in this volume in the proof corrections. We hope and trust readers will very generously excuse and oblige.

Publishers

The Message of the Song: Celestial SHRIMAD-BHAGVADGITA

As revealed by Shri Dnyandeo



By Shri S. D. Gokhale B. Sc., B. A.
ADVOCATES-EXAMINATION

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ABHREVIATIONS

Saint Dnyaneshwar	...	The Saint
Dnyaneshwari	...	The Tieka or Commentary
Veda Vyasa	...	The Author
Bhagavadgita	...	The Song or The Poem

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The song celestial: occasion



Thus addressing the Lord, Arjuna in a fit of sadness declined to fight on and assumed silence.

Yet, with a smile, The Lord exhorted him thus with the utterance of this song celestial

— Chapter 2, verses 9 & 10

THE SONG CELESTIAL

The Occasion

The writer had gone to Bombay and was staying with his cousin Shri V R Patwardhan, Garden View, Parsi Colony, Dadar, Bombay 14.

One morning, Shri Nanasaheb was sitting in his room facing the open door. Outside, the granddaughter Anjani age between four and five, was busy cleansing her utensils. Shri. Nanasaheb, addressing the little girl tried to stop her from her play as she was smearing the vessels with more mud. Yet she sternly resented the interference and warned him not to interrupt to her in her game. Nanasaheb silently called for the servant and with a smile, persuaded the tiny girl to take his help in her task.

The writer was put in mind of the occasion of the celestial song and repeated verses Nos 9 and 10 of the second chapter to Shri Nanasaheb.

In the picture we find Anjani and Nanasaheb below and Arjuna and Lord Shrikrishna above.

Dated:— 29-11-1969

S. D. Gokhale

DEDICATION

AT THE FEET OF THE MASTER



Shri S. S. Bhausaheb maharaj, Umadi

BORN

Ram Navami, Shaka 1765

SAMADHI

29-1-1914

A short account of the

“Inchgeri Sampradaya”

“The greatest men in the world have passed away unknown. The Buddhas and Christs that we know are but second rate heroes in comparison with the greatest men, of whom the world knows nothing. Silently they live and silently they pass away; and in time their thoughts find expression in Buddhas and Christs; and it is these latter that become known to us.”

— Swami Vivekanand On Freedom

Dr Gurudeo Ranadesaheb of Nimbai quotes the above extract in his introduction to the Nitya-nemavali of the Inchgeri Sampradaya and emphatically asserts that Shri Guruling Jungam Maharaj of Nimbargi represented the type of the greatest men of whom the world knows nothing.

Now Shri Guruling Jungam Maharaj represents the line of the saints descending from the Navanathas who can be traced to owe their origin to Lord Shankar or Adinath and finally to the Absolute substratum the infinite brahman.

Shri S. S. Bhausahab Maharaj of Umadi the founder of the Inchgeri Sampradaya was initiated by Shri Guruling Jungam Maharaj through the medium

of S S Raghunath Priya Sadhu Maharaj who was staying at Umadi on purpose, to fulfil his mission of initiating Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj of Umadi.

Amongst the disciples of Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj of Umadi, the following came to Prominence:—

- (1) Shri Amburao Maharaj, Inchgeri,
- (2) Shri Girimalleshwar Maharaj of Jamkhandi,
- (3) Shri Sidharameshwar Maharaj, of Pathari.
- (4) Shri Narsappa Maharaj Bagewadikar,
- (5) Shri Shrimati Shivalingavva of Jath,
- (6) Shri R. D. Ranadesaheb of Jamkhandi,
now known as Shri Gurudeo Ranadesaheb of
Nimbal.

And the lives of the Saints of the Inchgeri Sompradaya have been dealt with in the Corpus of the book.

A short life-sketch of the Writer

The writer Sadashiv Dhondo Gokhale was born at Satara on the 31st August 1891, Shravan Vadya 12th Shaka 1813.

He was matriculated from the Sangli High School in 1906. Before his birth, Mr. Gokhale's mother passed four months and odd in prayers to Lord Dattatraya at the sacred temple of Audumbar in the then Satara District. While quite young, his mother's father had taught him Ramgita (Sanskrit) by heart and latter his father had taught him Rudra and a few Upanishads by heart, which later when he learnt Sanskrit in the High School and College, proved of very great value in his after life. While in College Prop Panse had blessed him for his proficiency in Sanskrit and had predicted he would be a scholar soon after. He took his B. Sc. degree of the Bombay University from the Baroda College in November 1911, and as a result of the blessings, was the only candidate placed in the first class of that year. He was appointed as the first Fellow in the Baroda College in the year 1912

By the end of December 1912, He attended the Margashirsha Saptah at Inchgeri along with his friend Shri Madhav Hanmant Gadagkar and was introduced to S. S. Bhausaheb Maharaj, Umdia by Prof. R. D. Ranade for initiation on the 23rd December 1912.

In 1913, Mr Gokhale joined the St. Xaviers' College at Bombay for M. Sc. and M A and took his B A degree from that college, by the end of 1913

Due to illness, Mr Gokhale had to leave Bombay and he joined service in the Sangli High School in 1916. Simultaneously he served in the Miraj Medical School for eight years and taught science to the L C P. S Class twice a week. He was posted as Head Master of the Shahapur High School in 1925, and he passed the Advocates Examination of the Bombay High Court in February 1926. He was then transferred to Sangli as Assistant Registrar, C S. and soon became Registrar and Inspector of Schools. He was twice taken to England as his Secretary by H. H. the Rajasaheb of Sangli in 1930 and 1931 for the Round Table Conference. Later he was a member of the Town Improvement Board, Sangli. He was appointed as a Magistrate for the Shahapur Taluka 1937. He accompanied H. H. the Rajasaheb of Sangli again to Vienna in 1938 January. Thus he went three times to Europe and spent nearly one year there every time. After coming back to India by the end of 1938, he was appointed as a guardian of the Yuvaraj Maharaj of Sangli at Nagpur for a year and a half, and took pension on the 12th of April 1940. Thereafter, he settled at Nagpur for a few years and came to Inchgeri on the 28th June 1950. He visited Nimbai in September 1950 on way back to Nagpur but was detained by Shri Gurudeo at Nimbai. He

remained at Nimbal for four months and was sent to Inchgeri in January 1951 for the Pousha Saptah. Mr. Gokhale is at Inchgeri since then for the last eighteen years and odd, looking after the Amburao Maharaj Math of which he is the Sole Trustee now, on behalf of Government.

20th June 1968

Late Vithal Krishna Joshi
Secretary
Adhyatma Vidya Mandir, Sangli

The timing of the Manuscript

आदिष्टवान् यथाध्याने गुरुगीतार्थं संगतिम् ।

तथा प्रसूतवान् एनामप्रवृद्धः सदाशिव ॥

As inspired by the master, the writer, though quite unequal to the task, has ventured to dress in words the ideas revealed in meditation regarding the sequence of the Gita Chapters. The first five chapters and appendices A and B Part one were leisurely Scribed in the months of November and the first half of December 1967 and later again in the months of February and the first half of March 1968.

The rest of the volume was rigorously completed in the last week of August and the whole of September 1968.

Finally the copy was presented to the Press in the last week of October 1968.

Fore-Word

I read with great delight this work on the Bhagawatgita by Shri S. D Gokhale. The Upanishadas formed the basis of his life and men like Bhausaheb Maharaj and Dr. Ranade moulded it. He has a first class University career. He has travelled abroad and acquired direct knowledge of various people and cultures. He is at present at Inchgeri in charge of the Amburao Maharaj Math. This has given him the golden opportunity to formulate and present to the English knowing world his ideas about one of the world's greatest books, Bhagawatgita.

He asserts that the supreme teaching of this book is union with the ultimate, (God-Immersion) Geeta stands for a continuous union (सत्तत्) with the whole, through the daily performance of right action. (युक्तकर्म) It strongly denounces inaction by clearly stating that idlers live in vain. It defines wrong action (पापकर्म) and dissuades men from pursuing it. Then it proceeds to examine closely various aspects of human activity and points out the right way to live. The Author agrees with Dr. Ranade that all the seven hundred verses of the Song are like the steps of a ladder rising one above the other and the verses as well as the chapters form a single wreath of thoughts as an inflorescence like parents and their offsprings. According to him, the eighteen chapters of the book can be divided into two parts and the

second part serves as an appendix to the first. He quotes internal evidence from the text in support of this idea. This provides ample food for thought for critics and scholars.

Geeta permits not any escapism. It stands for fearless right activity. In support of this point, the Author has added examples from the lives of a number of men of action, like Shri Adya-Shankaracharya, Swami Ramdas and Lokmanya Tilak. This is an unique feature of the work. The Author writes, "with his army of Sanyasins, Shri Shankaracharya saved Bharat from Buddhistic influence and established the philosophical thoughts of the Upanishads in this country. Swami Ramadas, with his army of Brahmacharis saved Maharashtra in his time. And towards the end of the nineteenth century, Lokmanya Tilak, with his army of house-holders awakened the consciousness of Independence in India." These are examples of men who lived the thought of Geeta, which stands for zealous pursuit of life (जोषयेत् सर्वकर्मणि), taking every activity as an end by itself (उस्मात् असक्तः सततं कार्यं कर्म समाचरेत् ।)

I recommend this book to all serious students of Geeta.

Poona 1
24th June 1969

sd - M G Mahajan
Principal,
N. Wadia College, Poona 1

The message of the Song-Celestial

SHRIMAT BHAGVADGITA

As revealed by Shri Dnyanadeo

SYNOPSIS & PREFACE

Dr. R. D. Ranade, now known as Shri Gurudeo Ranadesaheb of Nimbai, casually observed with respect to his famous work "The Constructive Survey of Upanishadic Philosophy" that the displacement of even an "and" or a "but" in the work would not be possible without causing scratches to the magnificent edifice of his seven storeyed Taj Mahal

N. B. — The work consists of seven chapters

Saint Dnyaneshwar styled the Author of the Song Veda-Vyasa as an eminent scholar with unbounded intellect and as one who has left nothing in this world unspoken, and boldly asserts in the same strain of Dr. Ranade that the seven hundred verses of the Song are like the steps of a ladder rising one above the other; and they form single wreath of thoughts like an inflorescence, the preceding verses as well as the chapters giving rise to the succeeding ones uniformly like parents and their offsprings. Besides, there is only one message delivered unto the

It is presumed as an axiomatic truth that the world or creation has sprung up from the lonely Brahman, as ripples or surges which arise and subside and may be scientifically styled as evolution consisting of the inanimate as well as the animate category, followed by Involution in unending succession

The evolution is automatically followed by the involution or the Return-Journey of the creation until it is finally dissolved in the Absolute Substratum, the Infinite Brahman. Thus evolution and involution follow one another in succession and this cyclic order is continuous and unending or infinite like a water-wheel rotating on its axis, filling jugs of water, emptying and refilling them in succession. Now the Human Beings form part of the animate creation, evolved from the Infinite Brahman, and the two paths mentioned above have exclusive reference to their Involution or Return-Journey only.

The philosophical and analytical treatment of this subject-matter ends with the discussion of all the three stages of God-Realisation, Viz God-Manifestation, God-Intoxication and God-Immersion which last means final absorption in the Infinite Brahman. These stages are enticing no doubt but their achievement for a Human Being, encased in the Human Frame, is not possible, until he is able to isolate himself from the Body-cover, with which he imagines or feels to be chemically identified though

as a matter of fact he remains only mechanically attached to the same.

The third chapter opens with the conflict of this actual mechanical attachment and the imagination or feeling or chemical identification with the Human Frame. Here begins the science of God-Realisation, God-Intoxication and God-Immersion. For an ordinary mortal, it is not so easy to overcome the imagination or feeling of chemical identification with the Body-cover by following the Path of Knowledge.

Lord Shrikrishna, therefore, persuades Arjun to follow the Path of Action to overcome this feeling first and exhorts him thus to realise the actual mechanical attachment. Thus begins the science of God-Realisation, God-Intoxication and God-Immersion, in the 3rd chapter.

In the 15th verse of the 3rd chapter, the origin of the Universe or creation is traced to its source and in the 8th chapter we find the dissolution of the Universe in the same source the Infinite Brahman.

ब्रह्माधारसमुद्भवम् । (3rd chapter)

अक्षरब्रह्मयोगो नाम अष्टमोऽध्यायः । (8th chapter)

This is the internal evidence to support the analysis of Saint Dnyaneshwar, regarding the sequence of the chapters of the Song.

The 4th chapter links these actions with Knowledge and emphasises the need of a spiritual

preceptor and guide to impart the knowledge to the disciple. Still it is kept a secret and finally disclosed in the seventeenth chapter.

The fifth chapter states the means for self-purification in verse No. 11 and describes the three stages of God-Realisation, God-Intoxication and God-Immersion in verses 17, 18 and 19, as under

कायेन मनसा बुद्ध्या केवलैरिन्द्रियैरपि ।
 योगिनः कर्मकुर्वन्ति संगं त्यक्त्वात्मशुद्धये ॥११॥
 तद्बुद्धयः तदात्मानः तन्निष्ठास्तत्परायणाः ।
 गच्छन्त्यपुनरावृत्तिं ज्ञाननिर्धूतकल्मषाः ॥१७॥
 विद्याविमयसपन्ने ब्राह्मणे गवि हस्तिनि ।
 शुनि चैव श्वपाके च पण्डिताः समदर्शिनः ॥१८॥
 इद्वैवर्तजितः सर्गो येषां साम्ये स्थितम् मनः ।
 निर्दोषं हि समं ब्रह्म तस्मात् ब्रह्मणि ते स्थिताः ॥१९॥

For detailed description See the fifth chapter in the volume.

N. B. : Mark the locative case in Brahmani (ब्रह्मणि)

Towards the close of the 5th chapter, we find two verses summarising the Practice of Yoga. Arjuna, however, not content with this cryptic description, insists on an elaborate treatment for actual practice and thus comes in the sixth chapter which forms the crucial part of the Song, to enable the seeker to experience God Realisation. The Saint in this chapter recommends a special posture or ASANA for the attainment of self-realisation. It is

called Mul-Bandha or Vajrasana, and the same has been at length detailed in the groups of the Book. Yet apart from its value as a means for self-realisation its adoption even for ensuring physical fitness is unsurpassed. The practice of this posture of ASANA induces sound sleep and its adoption cannot be exaggerated as a panacea for general cure and up-keep of the Human Frame

Shri Shankaracharya in his Yoga-Tarawali observes as under—

जालन्धरोज्ज्वलन मूलबन्धनाम् ।

जलान्ति कण्ठोदर पायुमुलान् ॥

बन्धत्रयेऽस्मिन् परिचीयमाने ।

बन्धः कुतो दाहण कालपाशात् ॥

The Human Frame in this posture remains locked up in three places viz. the Neck, Thorax and the Anus. And the machine, thus locked up stands as a challenge against the attack of even the Lord of Death for the time being

The seventh chapter opens with the presumption that the disciple had secured the preliminary qualification of God-Realisation, which is the condition precedent to have comprehensive survey of the Universal Aspect of Providence.

The 2nd verse emphatically asserts that nothing further remains to be known, when the first verse is thoroughly realised and the second line of the 2nd verse thus practically signalises the closing of the Song.

The third verse explains the Universal Aspect of Providence as “तत्त्वतः ज्ञानम्” and this is further categorically mentioned in 7 doctrines in verses from 4 to 19 and the same doctrines are elaborately treated in Part II in chapters 10 to 16 both inclusive as under—

	महाभूतान्यहंकारो
1 भूमिरापोऽनलोवायुः	etc. in chapter No. thirteen
	क्षेत्र क्षेत्रज्ञ योगोनाम
2 मयिसर्वमिदं प्रोतम्	etc. in chapter No. eleven
	विश्वरूपदर्शन योगोनाम
3 रसोऽहमप्सु	etc. in chapter No. ten
	विभूति योगोनाम
4 ये चैवसात्विका भावाः	etc. in chapter No. fourteen
	गुणत्रयविभाग योगोनाम
5 देवीरद्वेषागुणमयी	etc. in chapter No. fifteen
	The tree of unreality.
	पुरुषोत्तम योगोनाम
6 नमोऽदुष्कृतिनो मूढाः	etc. in chapter No. sixteen
	दैवासुर सप्तविभाग योगोनाम
7 चतुर्विधा भजन्ते मां	etc. in chapter No. twelve.
	भक्ति योगोनाम

The last two verses of the 7th chapter enumerate seven terms viz. ब्रह्म; अद्यात्म; कर्म; अधिभूतम्; अधिदैवम्; etc. and these being quite unintelligible to Arjuna, he demanded explanation of them all.

These explanations amount to the churning of the vast ocean of the Vedas; and thus the 5th

signalised by the beginning of the first verse of the 10th chapter. The verse begins with the significant and pregnant Adverb

“ भूयस् ” means “ again. ”

भूय एव महाबाहो शृणु मे परमं वचः ।

यत्तेऽहं प्रीयमानाय वक्ष्यामि हितकाम्यया ॥ १०-१

Chapters 10 to 16 explain the seven doctrines adumbrated in the 7th chapter. The 16th Chapter closes with the verse.

तस्माच्छास्त्रं प्रमाणं ते कार्याकार्यव्यवस्थितौ ।

ज्ञात्वा शास्त्रविधानोक्तं कर्म कर्तुमिहार्हसि ॥ १६-२४

The rulings of the scriptures are held as final authority for the discharge of legitimate duties devolving upon the Individuals.

The question naturally arises as to how such an authority could be available to them all, at all times.

म्हणोनि शास्त्राचे घडते । नोहे प्रकारे बहुते ।

द्वरो मूर्खा मुमुक्षा येथे । काय गती पा ॥ १७-२९

हा पुसावया अभिप्रायो । जो अर्जुन करी प्रस्तावो ।

तो सतराविया ठावो । अध्याया येथ ॥ १७-३०

Hence it appears to be extremely difficult to conform to the Rulings of the Scriptures in pursuing the activities in life at all times. Where is then the scope for ignorant persons who are still eager for salvation, to achieve the end ?

The Lord anticipated that Arjuna would press such a point for explanation and the seventeenth chapter comes in to solve the expected difficulty, of the disciple or rather to bridge over the gulf pointed out by him

Now the 3rd chapter of the Song propounds the pursuit of mere actions And the 4th Chapter links these actions with knowledge and emphasises the need of the spiritual preceptor and guide to impart the Knowledge to the disciple And what is it, that is imparted is still a mystery.

तद्विद्धि प्रणिपातेन परिप्रश्नेन सेवया ।

उपदेश्यन्ति ते ज्ञानं ज्ञानिनस्तत्त्वदर्शिनः ॥ ४-३४

The 17th chapter comes in to solve the difficulty of the disciple as to how the ignorant persons, eager for salvation could achieve the end And this difficulty is solved by verse No 23 of the 17th chapter and the commentary on the same. The 4th chapter states " तद्विद्धि " and this " TAT " is the mystery disclosed here and it is the name of the Lord as explained in verse No. 23 which is quoted below :-

अक्षरस्यैतदिति निर्देशो ब्रह्मणस्त्रिविधः स्मृतः ।

ब्राह्मणाम्तेन वेदाश्च यज्ञाश्च विहिताः पुरा ॥ १७-२३

Thus the name of the Lord is the deficiency of the mystery, which (if supplied by the preceptor on the way to the seeker to pass through the gateway of providence) is bound to take the seeker to the destination

Thus the 17th chapter is a corollary of the 16th no doubt. Still it performs the distinct function of supplying the deficiency also, we mean the name of the Lord, to the seeker, to take him to, the Destination.

Then comes in the conclusion, the 18th chapter, which is styled as the one-chapter Song by Shri Dnyanadeo still it is the logical outcome of the 17th chapter. And in summarising the story of the Song, it confines itself to the needs of only a part of the creation and to a part of the animate world only, we mean the Human-Beings.

Thus it is the survey of the Song no doubt, yet in a restricted sense only being confined to the Human-Beings of the animate creation. Whereas 9th chapter takes a review, with a broad outlook, of both SAT and ASAT, the BEING as well as the NOT-BEING

That the 18th chapter concludes and summarises the story of the Song in a restricted sense only is explained as under :—

The last verse of the 17th chapter is as under :

अथद्वया हृतं दत्तं तपस्तप्त कृतं च यत् ।

असदित्युच्यते पार्थ न च तत्प्रेत्य नो इह ॥ १७-२८ ॥

With a broad outlook on human-life the activities of Human-Beings, if classified, categorically come under four heads, viz. (1) Study of Vadas,

- (2) Offering oblations. (3) Practising Penance, and
(4) Offering bounteous Donations.

Now all these activities, if carried on, without any genuine feeling of faith and devotion, amount to a sheer waste of energy like torrents of rain pouring over the heads of rocks underneath. Naturally, this question is reopened in the 18th chapter and though it is a summary of the Song, it is a summary in a restricted sense only, being confined to the Involution or Return-Journey of the Human-Beings only of the animate-world, until they are finally dissolved in the Infinite, Substratum, the lonely Brahman.

Before concluding it will be befitting if we take a review of the Nasadieya Sukta in relation to its influence on the Bhagvadgita.

The origin of the Universe is veiled in mystery and philosophers from times immemorial have been fathoming the depths of this vast ocean of the unknowable.

The great Lokmanya Tilak in his famous work "The Gita Rahesya" quotes the Nasadieya Sukta from the Rigveda standing at No. 129 in X Mandala of Rigveda, which throws light on this mysterious problem and comes to the rescue of the philosophers by presenting a very graphic description of the origin which is the outcome of the experience and realisation of the Sage who is the author of the Sukta. We have quoted this Sukta in our chapter on the Mani-

festation (Page 142) for the details and we shall be content here only with the observations of the Lokamanya Tilak on the Sukta. The Sage in Sukta No. 4 authoritatively states he has witnessed the contact of the Maya or Illusion with the Absolute Substratum, the Brahman, on the strength of his meditation and experience. And further he states in Sukta No 6 that the Gods are of later origin than the primeval creation.

The observations of Lokamanya Tilak are as under :-

The Nasadieya Sukta bears singular testimony, to what extent the pure intuition and transparent faith of any person enable him like a fearless lion to explore the deepest recesses of the dense forest of incomprehensible problems and arrive at conclusions which baffle imagination and defy all logic.

And it is still the more surprising that this Sukta forms part of the earliest among the Vedas namely, the Rigved. The subject matter of this Sukta has been at length discussed in India by ancient philosophers and in the West as well by all modern philosophers. But the efforts of all these critics have not reached beyond merely expounding and expatiating upon the Divine Revelation of the great Author of this Nasadieya Sukta nor is there any hope or possibility of their reaching further heights. The Mahabharat has based its explanation of the

origin of Universe on the authority of Nasadieya Sukta No 3 in serial order and states that the lonely original Brahman had transformed itself in the shape of this Universe, on the strength of its own Tapas and the Tapas of the Brahman is nothing but its own sweet free will. When once this sweet free will of the Brahman is accepted as an axiomatic and basic truth all later explanations regarding involution or the return-journey of the Human Beings in particular in the creation, appear to be perfectly cogent and consistent.

It will be just befitting to take stock of the various theories advanced to show the relation between the Brahman and the Universe.

The Universe is looked upon as a more physical change, a mere illusion, a mirage or Maya overtaking the Brahman. The reason in each case is either the sweet will or self-forgetfulness of the Brahman itself.

The Nasadieya Sukta holds that the original Brahman or NOT-BEING under the influence of its own sweet will or Tapas desired to change its form which ultimately appears as the Universe or Being.

This Sukta holds NOT-BEING as the Brahman BEING as the Universe, whereas elsewhere BEING is taken as Brahman and NOT-BEING as the Universe or Maya.

Between this NOT-BEING and the BEING an intervening stage of self-hypnotisation is imagined and it is thus taken for granted that there are three aspects of the same Brahman and this intervening stage leans on one side to Brahman and on the other to the Maya or the Universe. The chapter VIII of the Celestial Song supposes Brahman as the basis, Adhyatma as the intervening stage and Karma as the Universe.

The XIII chapter again looks upon Brahman as the Kshetradnya and assumes that a wave of forgetfulness overtakes this Kshetradnya and the same further develops into the so-called Kshetra or Universe. The same chapter at the end again states that the Brahman is the Purusha and this Purusha under self-hypnotisation appears as Prakriti.

The XV chapter mentions Brahman as the Vastu (वस्तु) which through a stage of slumber or deep sleep rises into the wakeful condition called Maya. The same chapter further calls Brahman as the Uttam Purusha which passing through the stage of Akshara Purusha becomes Kshara or the Maya of the Vedantins.

Milk is cited as an example which when beginning to boil shows a thin layer of cream and this layer if stirred all the while, is either dissolved in the milk or if kept undisturbed appears as thick cream on the top.

In short these three stages if tabulated systematically would appear as under—

	Original state	State of Hybernation	Final formation complete transformation or metamorphosis
I	Not-Being Asat	Self will, influence or Tapas	Being Sat
II	Brahma	Adhyatma	Karma
III	Kshetradnya	Self-forgetfulness	Kshetra
IV	Purusha	Self hypnotism	Prakriti
V	Vastu वस्तु	Infiltration or thickening, seedling condition, Deep sleep	Final fruition or Maya wakeful condition
VI	Uttam Purusha	Akshara Purusha	Kshara Purusha
VII	Milk	Surface cream when boiling	Thick cream
VIII	The world of the mystics	Which side you choose whether the mystics or the men of the world	The Universe or the men of the world



Thanks giving

Now the duty remains to offer our most cordial thanks to our friends, sympathisers and relations for the services they have rendered to the completion of this volume

First and foremost flow our expressions of deep indebtedness to our friend the late Vithalraoji Joshi, Secretary, Adhyatma Vidya Mandir, Sangli, who gave the inspiration to compile this volume in English, as soon he read the Draft essay prepared in the Dhyana-Mandir at Umadi.

Our sincere thanks are due to Shri K A Kamble a devoted disciple of Shri Amburao Maharaj, who volunteered as a present a Demand Draft of Rupees one hundred and thirty on 10-2-68 to start the work at once without delay.

Then came in, as a blessing, the forecast of rarity Apurvata regarding the conception of Gita Structure, from Shri S. S. Ganpatrao Maharaj at Kannur at Inchgeri.

Typing of the manuscript was essential for the press and the pioneer work was undertaken by my son Moreshwar, nephew Shripad and sister's son Vishwanath Vaidya at Nagpur.

Another nephew Nilkanth and his son Kumar of Kurundwad provided for the photograph and decorations. Dr. Kelkar of Bijapur and Dr. Upasani of Nagpur supplied the adequate medical terminology.

Shri G. V. Gadgil, Municipal Pensioner, Bijapur volunteered to stay at Inchgeri to finish up the typing work. The typed copies were read by Shri K. B. Joshi, Retired Head Master, Jamkhandi; and were recommended to Shri G. K. Gadgil, B A, LL.B PLEADER, at the place who offered an advance of a thousand rupees and thus cleared the way to the press, Shri. V M. Godbole of the Accounts Branch, S. P. Mandali Poona, volunteered his quota to facilitate the printing.

Shri G. S. alias Annasaheb Sohoni, Proprietor Yashwant Press, Wai, a disciple of Shri. Gurudeo, accepted the offer of the meagre advance and undertook printing of the volume.

Dr. R. N. Dandekar of the Poona University was approached through the medium of my younger brother Shri. Narayan Dhondo Gokhale and his son Vasudeo to go through the few printed pages and with a surprise he remarked in his letter as under :-

"I struck by your original approach to the study of the Bhagvadgita, which I believe, will invest your work with a new orientation."

This is, as it were, the confirmation of the Prognosis of Shri Ganpatrao Maharaj Kannur.

Shri. P. T. Deshpande of Wai did some miscellaneous typing work.

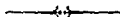
Shri J. B. Dixit, Artist, Poona deserves credit for his artistic pictures in the volume, of Lord Krishna and Arjuna and the tiny Anjani, the granddaughter of my cousin Shri V. R. Patwardhan, Bombay who by her innocent play gave the inspiration for painting the occasion for the Song to Shri Dixit.

Shri M D Hate, a disciple of Shri Nisargadatta Maharaj, Khetwadi, Bombay was kind enough to spare the use of the block of S. S. Bhausahab Maharaj Umadi.

Shri S R Natu, Poona, my grandson undertook the printing of the jacket provided for this volume, which reflects the artistic vein of Shri Dixit. Shri Kale, retired Deputy Engineer and Shri Bhopatkar, B A , B. E. Proprietor of the Institute of Engineering, Pakistan, both residents of Sangli now, deserve special mention for their valuable suggestions and encouragement.

Acharya V. P. Limaye of Poona suggested the change in the title of the message. The services rendered by Shri Bhaurao Apte, M. A , LL. B , retired Civil Judge and Shri K B. Joshi B A., B. T. retired Head Master, both organisers of the Gurudeo Mandir Jamkhandi, surpass adequate applause.

And on the top of all these foregoing, the late Shri S. K. Dharmadhikari of Bijapur, the stenographer to Dr. Gurudeo Ranadesaheb deserves special mention for the compilation of this volume, for his mature suggestion of the outlines which were the fruit of his contact as the shadow of Dr. Gurudeo for several years.



An appeal

In his appreciation of the exquisitely poetic and highly philosophical tone of Shri Dnyaneshwari, the Marathi commentry on the Celestial Song Shrimad Bhagavadgita, the late Dr. R. D. Ranade went to the length of recommending to the non-Marathi public the study of the Marathi language to be able to taste the flavour of the monumential work at the source. But still even if the expectations of Dr. Ranade are materialised the advantage will be reaped by a limited circle only.

Whereas at the present moment, the English language like Sanskrit has assumed the status of the world language and if the Government of Maharashtra and the Central Government of India undertake to have an authentic rendering of the Marathi Dnyaneshwari in English so as to bring to light by reading between the lines, the hidden import as well as the full connotation of this monumential work, the Sanskrit Celestial Song being a gospel of the world, the advantage will be reaped by thousands interested in the Gospel.

It is surprising, how with the English education and English outlook, Pandit Nehru could have had a true perspective of the achievements of Adya Shankaracharya And singing the glory of

Shankaracharya Pandit Nehru himself became a man of world-fame in later life. Due to the meritorious acts done by a person, his name resounds both in the heavens as well as on earth. And he is styled as the Purusha by the Mahabharat.

दिवं स्पृशति भूमिं च शब्दं पुण्यस्य कर्मणः ।

यावत् स शब्दो भवति तावत् पुरुष उच्यते ॥

वनपर्व ३-१९१-२१

३-२९७-६३

When Pandit Nehru passed away, the entire world resounded with the single name Nehru. India and Nehru were synonymous.

And we shall be justified if we expect a similar surprise from Mrs. Indira Gandhi, the present Prime Minister of India, if she feels inspired, by following in the footsteps of her revered father, to devote her attention to the achievements of Saint Dnyaneshwar, by making available an English rendering of the monumental Marathi work, on the lines suggested above.



CHAPTER I

Introductory

The writer had the good luck of being blessed by the great Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj, the mighty Saint of Umadi, (the founder of the Inchgeri Sampradaya) as far back as in the month of December 1912. He was then introduced to the Maharaj at Inchgeri by the late Prof. R. D. Ranade, now known as Shri Gurudeo Ranadesaheb of Nimbal.

By the end of October 1967, the writer was going by a bullock cart from Inchgeri to Umadi, a distance of 15 miles, for the annual celebration of the Paduka Installation day. It was a five hours journey, and the following ovis in the Introduction to the 10th chapter of Shri Dnyaneshwari were troubling his mind constantly all along-

आतां आपुलेनि कृपा प्रसादे । मिया भगवद्गीता बोवी प्रबन्धे ।

पूर्वखंड विनोदे । वाखाणिलें ।

एवं नवही अध्याय पहिले । मिया मती सारिखे वाखाणिले ।

आता उत्तरखंड उवाडले । गन्धाचे आदका ॥

जो अभिप्राय साते दाती । तो एकलाचि नवमी ॥

The first two ovis divide the Gita into two parts of 9 chapters each, the latter being styled as उत्तरखंड i. e. serving as an appendix to the former. The third ovi states that the 9th chapter of the first part is a concise & precise review of all the 700 verses of the Song.

With these thoughts revolving in his mind the writer suddenly stumbled on the idea that the 8th chapter in that case should signify the closing of the Song proper.

On reaching the destination, he read over and over again the 7th & 8th chapters and recalled to his mind the following ovi viz.

सात शतं श्लोक । अठरा अध्यायाचे लेख ।

परी देव बोलिल जी एक । जे दुजे नाही ॥

(in the 18th chapter)

To his great surprise he found that the 7th chapter adumbrated seven Doctrines which could adequately fit in with these seven chapters from 10 to 16 and also found that the 17th chapter was a corollary of the 16th, the 18th giving a summary of the whole Song. The circle was thus complete and he found the last line of the 8th chapter as the solitary message of the Celestial Song viz.

“ योगी परमस्थानमुपैतिचाहम् ”

A Yogi returns to the original abode from which he has sprung up.

The Celestial Song has acquired the status of the Gospel not only of India but that of the entire world. As a Gospel of world fame, The Song has been published so far in more than 1300 editions in 32 different languages including 8 foreign ones. There have been however diverse opinions regarding the

message of this Celestial Song Some style it as KARMAYOGA others DNYANAYOGA still others BHAKTIYOGA or DNYAN-KARMA-SAMUCHAYAYOGA or ANASAKTIYOGA and the like, according to the angle of vision of the respective commentators,

Some have been searching for interpolations while others have been hunting for different authors for the linking up of the 700 verses. It was however reserved as a special privilege for Saint Dnyaneshwar to unlock with his masterkey the flexible doors of the labyrinth of the commentators and press his fingerend firmly on the conclusion already arrived at by the Author of the Song himself.

साचचि बोलाचे नव्हे हे शास्त्र । संसार जिणे ते शास्त्र
आत्मा अवतरवी ते मन्त्र । अक्षरे द्ये ॥ १५।५७७

Indeed : The Celestial Song is not a scripture of mere words. It is a weapon to dispel the veil of ignorance resulting in the Ephemeral Existence of the Universe. And the syllables are powerful enough to manifest Soul.

Besides, it is the philosophy as well as the science not merely of God-realisation but that of God-intoxication and final immersion in God or Brahman the Absolute. It preaches the Doctrine of merger, absolute final immersion in the Infinite Brahman which has neither beginning nor end The Brahman is a vast endless ocean, and what appears

or appear to be the world or worlds are mere ripples or surges on the endless expanse of this Absolute Sub-stratum called the Brahman. Chapter 2nd treats the philosophy and chapters 3 to 8 the Science to reach the goal. The Saint styles the Author as the eminent scholar with unbounded intellect and as one who has left nothing in this world unspoken.

म्हणवूनि महाभारती जे नाही । ते नोहेचि लोकी तिही ।

येणें कारणे म्हणिये पाही । व्यासोच्छिष्ट जगत् त्रय ॥

एव जे महाभारती । श्री व्यासे अप्रान्तमती ।

भीष्म पर्व संगती । म्हणितलों कथा ॥

It does not therefore stand to reason or it seems rather in-credible that such an Author might have left it to his commentators to discover the Central idea or message of the Celestial Song composed by him.

आता आपुलेनि कृपाप्रसादे । मिया भगवद्गीता बोवीप्रवन्धे ।

पूर्वखंड विनोदे । वाखाणिले ॥ १०।२३

एव नवही अध्याय पहिले । मिया मती सारिले वाखाणिले ।

आता उत्तरखंड उवाडले । ग्रन्थाचे आइका ॥ १०।४०

मग द्वादशम्ही असल्याके । जेतुला कांही अभिप्राय पिके ।

तेतुला महाभारते एके । लक्षे जोडे ॥ १०।३०

निये आपवाचि जे महाभारती । ते लाभे कृष्णार्जुन वाचोक्ति ।

आणि जो अभिप्रायो सातेसती । तो एकलाचि नवमी ॥ १०।३१

In proof there of the Saint states in unequivocal terms that the composition of the Poem is in two parts consisting of nine chapters each, the latter being an appendix, explanatory or supplementary, to the former and that the 9th chapter of the 1st part

deals in a concise and precise manner with the cream of the subject matter of the seven hundred verses of the Celestial Song.

(Note) The first eight chapters contain 338 verses, the 9th chapter 34 and the second part 328; and thus the total number of verses comes to seven hundred.

म्हणोनि मागील जे अध्याये । ते चढते भूमीचे आवे ॥ १८१४२

Besides, the arrangement of the several chapters is in the form of ascending steps of the ladder; and when the 9th chapter is thus excluded, being the summing up of the story, the 8th chapter of the 1st part is the culminating point of the message, delivered unto the world by the Celestial Song of Lord Shrikrishna, as sung by the Author and that message is :-

“ योगोपरं स्थानमुपैतिचाक्षम् ”

Last line of the last verse of the last chapter of the story proper.

The yogin returns to the original abode from which he has sprung up viz. the Eternal Infinite Brahman.

मातंगते श्लोक । अठरा अध्यायाचे लेख ।

परी देव बोलिलेजी एक । जे दुजे नाही ॥ १८१५८

All the seven hundred verses of the 18 chapters convey only one message and not any other, and that message is

‘योगीपरं म्यात्, मुनिचायम्’

वारा आमाळीच फेडी । वाचूनि सूर्यति न घडी ।
का हातु बाबुळी घाडी । तोय न करी ॥ १८१२३१
तेसा आत्मदर्शनी आहळु । असे अविलंबा जो मळु ।
तो शास्त्रनाती येरु निर्मळु । मी प्रकाशे स्वये ॥ १२३२
म्हणोनी आध्यात्म शास्त्रे । अविद्यानाचाची पात्रे ।
वाचोनि न होती स्वतः । आत्मबोली ॥ १२३३
तथा अध्यात्म शास्त्रासी । जे सावपणाची ये पुसी ।
ते येइजे जया ठायसी । ते हे गीता ॥ १२३४

The wind disperses the clouds and makes the Sun visible; whereas the Sun is Self-existent. The hand removes the surface-screen of the moss; where-as the water underneath is already there. Similarly the Spiritual Sciences dispel the veil of Ignorance concealing the spirit inside; where-as says the Lord, "I," the spirit inside am Self-existent and Self-luminous."

All the spiritual sciences therefore are intended only to remove the external veil of Ignorance, whereas the Spirit inside is Self-existent and manifests itself.

And to test their veracity all the spiritual sciences have to look to the Celestial Song as a referee which alone is capable to serve as the touch-stone for the several sciences.

हे अमा येने शास्त्रेखरे । माया उपाय बहुवे विस्तारे ॥
पापितला जेगा वरे । सेवोये आत्मा ॥
आनि मंगले गीता । दाखोही ह्या सपता ।
म्हणोनि दावी आत्मता । एकात्मत्व ॥

जे ग्रन्थाच्या माध्यभागी । नाना अधिकार प्रसंगी ॥
 निरूपण अनेगी । सिद्धान्ती केले ॥
 तरी तेतुलेही सिद्धान्त । इये शास्त्री प्रस्तुत ।
 हे पूर्वापर नेणत । कोण्ही जे मानी ॥
 तैमहा सिद्धान्ताचा आवांका । सिद्धान्तकक्षा अनेका ।
 भिडवूनि आरंभ देला । संपवीतु असे ॥
 एष अधिद्या नाशु हे स्पळ । तेणे मोक्षोपादान हे फळ ।
 या दोही केवळ । साधन ज्ञान ॥

Be it so; This Premier Spiritual Science has in the foregoing chapters laid open the gate-way to providence in detail so as to enable the seeker at once to shoot at the target and secure the game viz. the vision of the Lord. And now towards the close of the song, the Author maintains the harmony by harping in conclusion upon the same Doctrine which was set forth at the beginning of the Story.

However, as the story developed, several other Doctrines had to be discussed by way of evidence and in support of the Principal theme. And it is plausible in the eyes of those, who have missed the Central link of the story and have not had proper grasp of the references, that the problems discussed by way of reference, also form the subject matter of the celestial song. And it is for this purpose, that special mention has to be made to show that there is only one central theme and the discussions of the several other propositions were by way of reference only in support as a piece of evidence of the central theme.

And therefore the Solitary Doctrine adumbrated at the beginning of the story is again advocated as the conclusion of the celestial song as under:—

The veil of ignorance is the evil or wrong to be redressed, and the liberation of the spirit from the imprisonment in the Body-cover is the goal, the path of wisdom serving as the means for the end to be achieved which amounts to merging in the infinite, when the body cover is dissolved

And hence “योगी परस्थानमुपैति चाद्यम्” is the final message of the celestial song. The yogin returns to the original abode from which he sprang up.

Another argument in favour of the fact that The 1st part conclusively completes the story proper of the celestial song, is the concise and precise summary of all the several nine chapters, which has been briefly reviewed or surveyed in the introduction to the 10th chapter by the Saint.

The review runs as under:—

आता आपुने नि कृपा प्रसादे । मिया भगवद्गीता बोधी प्रबन्धे ।
 पूर्व स्रष्ट विनोदे । वातागिले ॥
 प्रथमी अर्जुनाचा विषादु । दुजी बोलिला योगु विषादु ।
 परी सारय बुढीसो भेदु । दाऊनिया ॥
 निजी केवल कर्म प्रतिष्ठिले । तेचि चतुर्थी ज्ञानेशी प्रगटिले ।
 पंचमी गळ्हरिले । योगतत्त्व ॥
 तेचि षष्ठांमजी प्रगट । आसना सांगोनि स्पष्ट ।
 जांबांमघाव एकवट । होतो जेणे । . . .

तैसो जे योगस्थिती । आणि योगभ्रष्टा जे गती ।
 ते आघवीचि उपपत्ती । सांगितली पण्डी ॥
 तयावरी सप्तमी । प्रकृति परिहार उपक्रमी ।
 कहनि भजति जे पुरुषोत्तमी । ते बोलिले चान्ही ॥
 पाठी सप्त प्रश्नसिद्धी । बोलोनि प्रयाण समय शुद्धि ।
 एवं सकळ वाक्यावधि । अष्टमाध्यायी ॥
 मग शब्दब्रह्मी असंख्याके । जेतुला काही अभिप्राय पिके ।
 तेतुला महाभारते एके । लक्षे जोडे ॥
 तिये आघवाचि जे महाभारती । ते लाभे कृष्णार्जुन वाचोक्ति ।
 आणि जो अभिप्रायो सातेसती । तो एकलाचि नवमी ॥

The saint prays to his master as under-

With your blessings I have been able to complete my commentary on the first part of the Bhagwatgita in the oviform.

The first chapter narrates the cause of despondence on the part of Arjuna. The second chapter deals with the path of Action as differentiated from the path of Knowledge or Wisdom

Mere activism is propounded in the third chapter. The fourth chapter deals with the light of knowledge that ought to accompany the actions or deeds performed. The necessity of a qualified preceptor also is insisted upon for receiving the required light of knowledge. The fifth chapter deals with the practice of yoga necessary for the attainment of self-realisation. The sixth chapter dilates upon the same practice of yoga in a systematic manner detailing the

various postures necessary for the attainment of Self realisation which means and implies the identity of the Individual Soul with the Universal Soul. Simultaneously the condition of those that fail to achieve their end in the existing life, has been discussed in detail with the final assurance that they are bound to reach the goal in their next birth. Then comes the the seventh chapter which enumerates the Seven Doctrines from verses 4 to 19 beginning with the origin of the Universe due to the working of the display of the Illusion or maya attending upon the Absolute Brahman or the PURUSH like his shadow and ending with the four types of devotees that offer their prayers to the Almighty Lord as per their inherent cravings). And then the last or the eighth chapter deals in detail with the sevenfold questionnaire introduced or hinted at the close of the 7th chapter, the last in the series being the merger in the Absolute Brahman when the occasion comes to discard the Human Frame. These seven questions solve the riddle of the Universe and therefore their replies are as good as or amount to the results achieved by the churning of the vast ocean of the Vedas themselves. The essence of the vast ocean of the Vedas has been summarised in the one Hundred thousand verses of the Mahabharat. This essence is still concentrated in the conversation of the Lord Shri Krishna and Arjuna i. e. the BHAGWATGITA. And the essence of all the 700 verses of the GITA is still further concentrated

in the 9th chapter. Thus the 9th chapter sums up the cream of the celestial Song.

We do not find a similar synopsis of the nine chapters of the 2nd part i. e. chapters from 10 to 18 in the concluding chapter No 18

Here the Saint regards the Gita as a miniature form of the vedas themselves and divides the chapters 1, 2 and 3 as KARMAKAND, chapters 4 to 12 as DEVATA or UPASANA Kand and chapters 13, 14 & 15 as DNYANA Kand, in consonance with the divisions of the Vedas themselves. But this comparison is merely allegorical and not a statement of facts, as in the case of the first nine chapters

This argument however is directly in favour of the divisions of PURVA KHAND and UTTAR KHAND. Lastly verses from 4 to 19 of the 7th chapter adumbrate seven doctrines which correspond to the chapters of the 2nd part as under—

भूमिरापोऽनलो वायुः खमनो बुद्धिरेव च ।
अहंकार इतीयं मे भिन्ना प्रकृतिरष्टधा ॥ ७-४
अपरेयमितस्त्वन्या प्रकृति विद्धिमेवरां ॥
जीवभूता महाबाहो ययेद धार्यते जगत् ॥ ७-५
एतद्योनीनि भूतानि सर्वाणोत्सृज्यधारये ॥
अहं कृत्स्नस्य जगतः प्रभवः प्रलयस्तथा ॥ ७-६

these verses 4, 5 and 6 correspond to chapter 3 क्षेत्र क्षेत्रज्ञ विभाग योगोनाम

मत्त. परतरनाम्यत् किंचिदस्ति धनंजय ।
मयि सर्वमिदं प्रोक्तं शृणु मणि गणादय ॥ ७-७

This verse No. 7 corresponds to chapter 11 विश्वरूप दर्शन योगोनाम.

रसोऽहमप्सु कीर्तेय प्रभास्मि शशि सूर्ययो ।

प्रणवः सर्व वेदेषु शब्दखे पीर्यं नृपु ॥ ७-८

पुण्योन्मथः पृथिव्यां च तेजश्चास्मि विभावसौ ।

जीवन सर्व भूतेषु तपश्चास्मि तपस्विषु ॥ ७-९

बीज मा सर्व भूताना विद्धिपार्थ सनातनम् ।

बुद्धिर्बुद्धिमतामस्मि तेजस्तेजस्विनामहम् ॥ ७-१०

बल बलवतामस्मि कामराग विवर्जितम् ।

धर्माविरुद्धो भूतेषु कामोऽस्मि भरतर्षभ ॥ ७-११

Verses 8, 9, 10, 11 correspond to chapter 10 विभूतियोगोनाम

येचैव सान्विका भावा राजसास्तामसाश्चये ।

मत् एवेति तान् विद्धि न त्वहं तेषु ते मयि ॥ ७-१२

त्रिभिर्गुणमयैर्भावैरेभि सर्वमिद जगत् ।

मोहिन नाभिजानाति मामेभ्यः परमव्ययम् ॥ ७-१३

Verses 12 & 13 correspond to chapter 14 गुणत्रय विभाग योगोनाम

देयोह्येषा गुणमर्षा मम माया दुस्त्यया ।

मामेय यैप्रपद्यन्ते मायामेता तरन्ति ते ॥ ७-१४ chapter 15

गुरुपोतम योगोनाम

न मा दुष्ट निनो मूढाः प्रपद्यन्ते नराधमाः ।

माययापहतमाना आसुर भावमाश्रिताः ॥ ७-१५

Verses No. 15 corresponds to chapter 16 देवासुर मपदिभाग योगोनाम.

अनुविष्टा भजन्ते मा जना मुनिनोऽर्जुन ।

अर्तो शिवापुरर्षादी ज्ञानी च भरतर्षभ ॥ ७-१६

तेषां ज्ञानी नित्यं युक्तः एकं भक्तिर्विशिष्यते ।

प्रियोहि ज्ञानिनोऽयं मम हं सच मम प्रियः ॥ ७-१७

उदाराः स्युर् एव ते ज्ञानी त्वामिव मे मतम् ।

आस्थितः सहियुक्तात्मामामेवानुत्तमांगतिम् ॥ ७-१८

बहूनां जन्मनामन्ते ज्ञानवान् मां प्रपद्यते ।

वासुदेवः सर्वमिति स महात्मा सुदुर्लभः ॥ ७-१९

Verses Nos. 16, 17, 18 & 19 correspond to chapter 12
भक्तियोगनाम.

Thus the seven chapters from 10 to 16 explain in detail the Doctrines adumbrated in the 16 verses of the 7th chapter as mentioned above.

अर्थं बोलाची वाट पाहे । तेथ अभिप्रावोचि अभिप्रायाते विये ॥ ९-२७

एवं जन्य जनक भावे । अध्यावो अध्यायाते प्रसवे ॥ ८-७५

Besides, the verses in the several chapters as well as the chapters themselves follow one another in a continuous and continued succession so as to present one single wreath of thoughts leaving no ground for critics to search for interpolations.

आइका मग तो श्री अनतु । पायांसी असे म्हणतु ।

ऐ गा तू योग युक्तु । जालामि आता ॥ ७-१

मज ममप्राते जाणसी ऐमे । आपुलिया तळहानीचे रम्य जेमे ।

तुज ज्ञान सांगेन तीमे । विज्ञानेसी ॥ ७-२

At the very outset of the seventh chapter the Lord exhorts Arjuna that he had fulfilled the condition precedent viz the realisation of the self, to qualify himself for receiving further knowledge

about the Almighty, which if thoroughly comprehended would leave nothing further to be known. This is the gist of the first two verses of the VII chapter.

And the third verse refers to the all-sided knowledge of the Almighty and it is this all-sided knowledge that is categorically mentioned in verses from 4 to 19 as stated above, and explained in chapters from 10 to 16.

Thus the 2nd verse of the chapter practically signalises the closing of the song, by stating that the all-sided knowledge leaves nothing else further to be known about God.

Lastly the eminent Author of the celestial song with his unbounded intellect and profound scholarship begins the 10th chapter with the very significant and pregnant adverb BHUYAS meaning "again" thereby insinuating in unequivocal terms that the subsequent chapters only repeat what has been already stated in the foregoing ones.

The verse runs as under :-

भूय एव महाबाहो (वृणुमे परमवचः) ।
यत्तेऽहं श्रीयमाणाय वक्ष्यामि हितकाम्यया ॥ १०।१

Please listen to my supremely significant advice again, thereby indicating that all further conversation is only a repetition of what has been already stated in the foregoing chapters.

And because of the sweet love I cherish for you, I am doing this entirely for your eternal welfare. Please therefore listen to my supremely significant advice again.

Commenting on this verse the Saint states as under:—

But before doing this we can cite one similar incident in the life-time of the great Lokmanya Tilak who happened to use the word " Again " in the same strain in which the Author made use of the word " BHUYAS " to began the 10th chapter

Lokmanya Tilak was released from the jail after his first term of rigorous imprisonment and he resumed the editorship of the " Kesari " a weekly paper hithertofore published by him, and the first article published by him appeared with the Head line पुनश्च हरिः ओम् । thereby meaning that he undertook the editorship of the paper to conduct the same in the same style and on the same lines with the same enthusiasm as before.

The eminent Author of the song also uses the word BHUYAS to begin the 10th chapter to connote that he is resuming the same story of the 9 chapters in the same strain to hammer the self-same truth and the same doctrines on the disciple once again

The Lord says to Arjuna " Please listen to what I say. I am repeating the same that I told you

before. It is with this view in mind that I say the same thing over again. Please devote all your attention to my words of advice "

तैसा कृपाळुवाचारावो । म्हणे आडके या महाबाहो ॥

सांगितलाचि अभिप्रावो । सागेन पुढती ॥

आम्हा येतुलियाचि कारणे । तेचि ते तुजसी बोलणे ।

परी असो हे अतकरणे । अवधान देई ॥ १०।६१

These two ovis Nos. 54 and 61 of the 10th chapter expressly state that nothing new would be added to the first part and that the several propositions adumbrated in the first part would only be explained in greater details in the succeeding chapters 10 to 16, as already stated above. The 17th chapter comes in to clarify the statement made at the close of the 16th chapter viz

तस्मात् सास्त्रप्रमाणते कार्याकार्यव्यवस्थितौ ।

that means it is a corollary of the 16th chapter. The 18th chapter summaries the entire story of the Song. When this conception or type of composition is accepted, the charge or statement of repetitions vanishes.

The several Doctrines advanced by the different commentators are included in the Gita or Song no doubt but according to the Saint they serve as mere references, whereas the Author himself reduces the whole Song to a cyclic order as follows :

हे उपर्ये भागि मागो । ते मायाबगे दिगे ॥

देवूरी लक्षणा बघुने जगे । ते जिविनागणि ॥ २।१०५

उपजे ते नाशे । नाशिले पुनरपि दिसे ॥

हे घटिका यन्त्र जैसे । परिभ्रमे गा ॥ २।१५९

What appears and vanishes, is a mere play of Illusion or Maya, whereas the Absolute Sub-stratum i. e. the Brahman is unchanging. The cycle of births and deaths is uninterrupted and remains constantly moving like a water-wheel

Brahma = Ahyatma = Karmā = Adhyatma = Brahma.

Besides the Saint boldly declares that the Teeka and the Song are only one, both being prototypes of one another and sung by the same Lord Shri Krishna. The last verse of the 2nd chapter and the last verse of the 8th chapter convey the same import though they seem to be differently worded. The former is the philosophical ideal to be achieved, the latter is the actual height reached by the seeker after his scientific pursuit of the pathway propounded in chapters from 3 to 8 both inclusive.

Chapter 2nd is the philosophy of the Goal, chapters 3 to 8 cover up the science to reach the Goal.

एषा ब्राह्मीस्थितिः पार्यं नैना प्राप्य विमुह्यति ।

स्थित्वाऽस्या मन्तुकालेऽपि ब्रह्म निर्वाणं मृच्छति ॥ २।७२

This state of the Individual is the final state of beatification and there he remains above all temptations and even when he has to cast off this tabernacle, he plunges headlong into the Infinite Brahman (2/72)

वेदेषु यज्ञेषु तपस्सु चैव दानेष्टुयत्पुण्यफलं प्रदिष्टम् ।

अत्येति तत्सर्वमिदं विदित्वा योगी परंस्थानं मुपतिचाद्यम् ॥ ८।२८

Howsoever enticing may be the rewards accruing from the study of the Vedas, from the practice of penances, from the performances of sacrifices or from the bounteous donations and gifts, a Yogin despises them all and seeks shelter in the Original Abode from which he has sprung up. (8/28)

Both are and mean the same and they signify the Goal to be reached and this is the message of the Song sung by the Author. In conclusion returning to the Original Abode from which the Human-Beings have sprung up is the Goal to be reached.

In the case of the former a Yogin does not condescend to fall back upon the pleasures accruing from the meritorious acts and in the latter he despises them all and plunges headlong in the Brahman ~ the Absolute Substratum



CHAPTER II

The Philosophy of God-realisation, God-intoxication and God-immersion.

प्रथमी अर्जुनाच्चा विषादु । दुजी बोलिला योगु विशदु ।
परी साख्य बुद्धीसी भेदु । दाऊनिया ॥

The first chapter graphically narrates the cuase of despondence on the part of Arjuna. The, second chapter drives Arjuna to action, simultaneously explaining to him the inherent principles of the path of wisdom as differentiated from the path of action

The author has very ingeniously selected the battle field as the scene of the Song; because here the God of Death incarnate, is seen playing havoc in mercilessly carrying on the horrid task of wholesale human slaughter. And nothing can be more befitting than this place or back ground to study the problem of life and death.

We have seen in the last chapter that the Verses as well as the chapters in the Song are arranged in a continuous and continued sucession and that the chapters are arranged like the ascending steps of a ladder, one step rising above the other in order. Thus in the first part of the Song when the 9th chapter is excluded, being the concise and precise

summary of the Song, the 8th chapter is the culminating point of the Song, and the last line of the last verse gives the message of the Song proper :-

“योगी परंत्थानमुपैति चाद्यम् ”

Now let us descend down the steps of the ladder and come to the first chapter, the opening and background of the Song

Here we find that Arjuna the disciple is painted as a hero, stricken with terror and dismay at the sight of the Affray in which he had to play his role of a warrior. He declines to fight on and paints a vivid picture of the horrors of war and the consequences accruing therefrom, with a view to dissuade his master from compelling him to fight on and fulfil his duty devolving upon him as a warrior for the time being.

In the 2nd chapter Lord Krishna the master, tries first to persuade his disciple to give up his fears regarding the success or otherwise as well as the consequences of the battle, and discharge his duties without any hesitation.

Arjuna, the disciple, remained heedless to these temporary persuasions and the preceptor had to resort to remedies that could thoroughly root out the very nucleus of the disease.

Here is the advice in the form of philosophy

not only of God-realisation but that of God-intoxication and and God-immersion.

There are two paths leading to the gateway of providence, namely, the path of action & the path of knowledge. The path of action is insisted upon for the human beings to follow, as it is the easier of the two to practise, and yet it is clearly pointed out that the inherent principles of the path of knowledge should not be lost sight of in the action.

The master explains to the disciple the tenets of the Sankhya Philosophy or the path of wisdom and tries to bring home unto him the immortality of the Soul, thereby establishing the impossibility of any person or persons committing suicide, or either killing one-another or in turn being killed by others. The change that takes place is the change in the form or external aspect, the spirit within remaining intact all through.

असौ च्यानन्वयो वस्त्व प्रमादादंश्च भाषते ।

गतामूनगतामृश्च नानुसोचन्ति पण्डिताः ॥ २-११

You are mourning over the loss of those who should not be mourned for, and have still the audacity to preach the gospel unto me. The wise never grieve over either the living or the dead ones.

सू जानता तरो म्हणविसी । परी नेणिवेते न संदिगी ॥

आणि शिखरू म्हणो तरो बोलमी । बहु साल गीती ॥ २-१२

तरो सांगता अर्जुना । तुज पागुनि म्बिमी या विप्रवना ।

हे अनादि बिम्ब रचना । ने मटिते पारी ॥

एष समर्थु एक आसी । तया पामूनि भूते होती ।
 तरी हे बायाचि काय बोलती । जगामाजी ॥
 हो कां साप्रत ऐसे जाहले । जे हे जन्मे तुवा सृजिले ।
 आणि नाशु पावे नाशिले । तुझे नि काई ॥
 की तूं एक वधिता । आणि सकळ लोक हा मरता ।
 ऐसी भ्रांती झणे चित्ता । येवो देसी ।
 अनादि सिद्ध हे आघवे । होत जात स्वभावे ।
 तरी तुवा का शोचावे । सांगे मज ॥

You say you are wise and are not giving up
 your ignorance And if I were to teach you something
 you are yourselves preaching the gospel unto me.
 Now please say unto me if you are the origin of all
 the three worlds. Is it a mere myth, when they say
 that the world is eternal? Is it also a myth when
 they say "Providence is all omnipotent from whom
 have sprung up all beings in the world?" Has it now
 come to pass that you have become the creator as
 well as the destroyer of the world? Have you become
 the destroyer and the world is being destroyed at
 your hands? The world is eternal. It appears and
 disappears according to the laws of Nature. Why
 should you then mourn over the inevitable?

मरवेवाह जानु नामं न ह्य नैमजनाधिपाः ।
 नयैव न भविष्यामः सर्वे वयमतः परम् ॥ २।१२
 जैमं पवने शोष हावविन्दे । आणि तरंगावार जाहले ।
 तरी वचणते जगमले । म्हणो ये तप ॥ २।१०६
 तेवि बापूचे मृतरण टेटे । आणि उदक सहज छपाट जाहले ।
 तरी आता काय निमाळे । विचारी पां ॥ २।१०७

It is not indeed the case that you and I and all these rulers never existed before, nor shall it ever happen that all of us shall cease to exist hereafter. Just as when the breeze is there, ripples do rise on the surface of water. Can we say then that something is born over the surface of the water? Similarly when the breeze becomes still and the surface of water becomes plain, can we say that something has suffered destruction?

देहिनोऽस्मिन् यथा देहे कोमारं यौवनं जरा ।
 तथा देहान्तरप्राप्तिर्धीरतत्र न मुह्यति ॥ २।१३
 तैसी चैतन्याच्या ठायी । इये शरीरान्तरे होती जाती पाही ।
 ऐसे जाणे त्या नाही । व्यामोह दुःख ॥ २।११०

Just as the tenant of the human body has to pass through all the stages of the body viz. The childhood, youth and oldage. Similarly when the existing frame is decayed, the tenant has to shift to another frame for a change. Courage alone saves him from delusion. And thus the immortal soul shifts from one human frame to another several times. And he, who realises this aspect of the Immortal soul, is free from the bondage of delusion.

मात्रास्पर्शास्तु कौतेय शीतोष्णसुखदुःखदाः ।
 आगमापायिनोऽनित्याः तास्तिष्ठन्नस्व भारत ॥ १४

Attachment to sense-objects results in the experience of heat and cold, pleasure and pain. But these experiences are not enduring or lasting or are

evanescent and therefore have to be endured or tolerated

य हि न व्यथयत्यते पुरुष पुरुषपथम् ।

समदुःखं सुखं धीरः सोऽमृतत्वाय वक्ष्यते ॥ १५

He who is not affected by the sense-objects and rises superior to pleasure or pain resulting therefrom alone courageously stands the test of escaping from the cycle of births and deaths

हं विषयं जयात नावळिती । तथा सुखं दुःखं दोन्ही न पवती ।

आणि गमवामुमगती । नाही तथा ॥ २ १२३

तो निर्यस्त पाया । वाळ्यावा मवथा ।

जा या इन्द्रियावा । नावळि ॥ १२४

He, who is not enticed by the sense objects and is free from both pleasure or pain, automatically escapes the cycle of births and deaths. Know him to be eternal indeed who is not ensnared by these sense objects

नामता विद्यन भावा नाभावा विद्यन सत ।

उभयारवि दृष्टान्तं स्वनया स्तन्वदशिमि ॥ २१२६

That, which does not exist, can never come into being nor can that which exists, be ever lost in nature. The great seers of truth have thoroughly realised the inherent nature of these two aspects together

Note :- Just as they say in chemistry, Matter is indestructible or nothing is lost in Nature, whereas the forms only change.

अविनाशितु तद्विद्वियेन सर्वमिदं तत् ।
विनाशमव्ययस्यास्य न कश्चित् कर्तुमर्हति ॥ २।१७

That which premeates the whole world can never be destroyed. No one can dream of putting an end to this Eternal Substance.

अतवन्त इमे देहा नित्यम् शोक्ताः शरीरिणः ।
अनाशिनोऽप्रमेयस्य तस्मात् युध्यस्व भारत ॥ २।१८

The human frames put on by this Eternal Substance have an end in themselves and therefore you should not hesitate to fight on.

नैन छिन्दन्ति शस्त्राणि नैनं दहति पावकः ।
न चैनं क्लेदयन्त्यापो न शोषयति मातृ ॥ २।२३
अच्छेद्योऽयमदात्मोऽयं सक्लेद्योऽशोष्य एव च ।
नित्यः सर्वगतः स्थाणुरचलोऽयं सनातनः ॥ २।२४

This eternal substance is proof against any weapons as well as against fire water or wind This substance cannot be cut asunder, cannot be burnt, cannot be drifted away by the current of water nor can be evaporated This substance is Eternal, all pervading, stable, stationary and perpetual.

अव्यक्तोऽयमचिन्त्योऽयमविकार्योऽयमुच्यते ।
तस्मादेवं विदित्वैनं नानुशोचितुमर्हति ॥ २-२५

The Brahman is absolute, beyond imagination unchangeable and hence when you have realised the same, there shall be no occasion or ground for you to mourn over anything.

हा तर्काचिये दिठी । गोवर नोहे किरीटी ।
 ध्यान याचिये भेटी । उत्कंठा बाहे ॥ २-१४८
 हा सदा दुर्लभ मना । आपु नोहे साधना ।
 निःसीमु हा अर्जुना । पुष्टपोत्तमु ॥
 हा गुणत्रय रहितु । व्यक्तीमि अतीतु ।
 अनादि अविश्रुतु । सर्वरुपु ॥
 अर्जुना ऐसा हा जाणावा । सकलात्मकु देखावा ।
 मग सहजे शोक आपवा । हरेल तुझा २-१५१

This Brahman is beyond the scope of imagination. Seekers eagerly concentrate for his achievement. The mind cannot reach him. He is beyond all means of attainment and on top of these all he is infinite. He is unalloyed and beyond all contamination of the three qualities or gunas. He is without beginning, unchanging, all pervading and assuming all possible forms.

You have to know him in all the aspects and realise and experience his vision. Then alone you will have no occasion to mourn over any thing in the world.

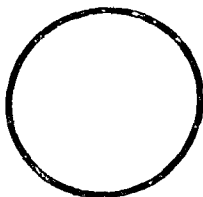
जातस्य हि ध्रुवो मृत्युं ध्रुवं जन्म मृतस्य च ।
 तस्मादपरिहार्यमे न त्वं शोचिषुमर्हसि ॥ २-२७
 उपने ते नाशे । नाशने पुनरपि दिने ।
 हे शदिवा यन्म जने । परिग्रमेगा ॥ २-१५९

A person, who is born, is destined to die and death is followed by birth in succession. And therefore you have no reason to mourn over this inevitable cycle of births and deaths.

Birth is followed by death and death by birth again, just as a water wheel rotating on its axis, in a cyclic order and filling, emptying and refilling jugs of water in succession. The phenomenon of the creation and destruction of the Universe is unreal and a mirage following one another in succession due to illusion accompanying providence like a shadow as if it were the wheel rotating on its axis filling jugs with water emptying and refilling them in a cyclic order.

कर्म = विसर्ग = स्थिति

अध्यात्म
नाश



अध्यात्म
उत्पत्ति

ब्रह्म-लय

It is a water wheel and an illusion of providence says Dnyaneshwar. This is a cycle of evolution from and Involution into the Brahma.

Emergence उत्पत्ति Existence स्थिति Destruction विनाश
Immersion लय

श्रीडार्षीं सृजति प्रपञ्चमखिलं श्रीडामृगास्तेजना ।
यत्कर्मचरितं मयाच भवतु श्रीव्योमवत्स्वेवतद्

सम्भो स्वस्य कुतूहलस्य करण मञ्चेष्टितं निश्चितम्
 तस्मान्मामकरक्षणं पशुयते कर्तव्यमेव त्वया
 शिवानन्दहरी श्रीशंकराचार्याः

Oh Lord, the Universe is a game of recreation for you. The Human beings are so many animals in your circus. The actions done by me are all intended to secure your grace and pleasure. And as my actions are definitely done to satisfy your curiosity, therefore it is an obligation on you that you must care for my welfare. Thus the creation of the universe is a game of recreation for providence as is depicted in this verse by Shri. Shankaracharya.

अव्यक्तादीनि भूतानि व्यक्त मध्यानि भारत ।

अव्यक्त निधनान्येव तत्रका परिदेवना ॥

(२-२४)

All the beings in the Universe have their origin in the Absolte substratum called the invisible Brahman. They appear to be visible in form in the Interval and again they merge or disappear in the same substratum. You have no occasion, therefore to mourn over them.

त्रिये समस्ते दये भूते । जन्मा आदि अमूर्ते ।

मग पातली व्यक्तीते । जन्मलेया ॥

निये दायानि जेय जाती । तेय निभ्रान्त आने नष्टती ।

देते पूर्वस्थितोचि देती । आपुलिये ॥

परी मध्ये जे प्रतिभाये । ते नित्रिता स्वप्न जैमे ।

मंगा आकारु हा मायाबने । सत्स्वरूपी ॥

ना नरी पवने स्थगिले नीर । पडियामे तरंगाकार ।

वा वरापेदा भर्तार । व्यक्ती बनकी ॥

तैसे सकळ हे मूर्त । जाणपां मायाकारित ।
 जैसे आकाशी विवत । अघ्नपटल ॥
 तैसे आर्दचि जे नाही । तयालागी तू रुदसी काई ॥
 तू अवीट ते पाही । चैतन्य एक ॥

All the living beings before birth are formless and invisible and after birth assume their separate entities. After death also, without any change, they return to their original invisible formless condition. During the interval between birth and death, what appears to be a separate entity is only an illusion enveloping the soul inside, just as a person dreaming while asleep, feels the reality of the illusion passing before his eyes, just as ripples are seen on the surface of water set in motion by a breeze, or just as a piece of gold is transformed into various types of ornaments at the sweet will of the architect; similarly the invisible formless Brahman, through the influence of its own illusion, assumes concrete forms in the process of creation, just as clouds are formed in the formless sky.

Therefore, you have no reason to mourn over what has no existence at all.

There is only one eternal substance called the Brahman, the absolute substratum. And you fix your gaze on the same

जयाची आर्तोचि भोगित । विषयी त्यजिले मत ।
 जयालागी विरवत । वनवासिये ॥
 दुष्टि सूनि जयाते । ब्रह्मचर्यादि व्रते ।
 मुनीश्वर तपाते । आचरताति ॥

Anxiously intent on the achievement of the realisation of Brahman, the sages have despised the sense-objects. Renouncing the worldly pleasures others have taken resort to the Forests. Still others have taken the vow of celibacy and have fixed their gaze on the Brahman and the sages have been practising penance also with the same object in view.

आश्चर्यं वत् पश्यति कश्चिदेन ।

आश्चर्यं वत् वदति तथैव चान्यः ॥

आश्चर्यं वच्चैन मन्य दृणोति ।

श्रुत्वाऽप्येन वेद न चैव कश्चित् ॥ २।२९४

Now amongst those that are striving for the vision of the Brahman, the few that succeed in being blessed with the vision are struck with bewilderment at the sight. Still fewer that succeed in conversing with the Brahman remain still in amazement. Others that could listen to the response from the Brahman lose their consciousness altogether and finally they are struck dumb to describe what has passed between the Brahman and themselves. "वेद" is used here in the sense of being able to explain, as will be seen from the following commentary.

एक धरती निरवच्छ । जे निहायिता बेवच्छ ॥

विमरने सवच्छ । गमार जात ॥

एका गुणानुवादवर्तिता । उगति होउनि विता ।

निरवधि तत्त्वानुगा । निरतर ॥

एक ऐश्वर्यानि निवाते । तं देहधारी सारिने ।

एक अनुभवे पावने । अनुभवा ॥

जैसे मरिता ओष समस्त । समुद्रामाजी मिळन ।
 परी माघीत न समात । परतले नाही ॥
 तैमिया योगीश्वराचिया मती । मिळणीसवे एकवन्ती ।
 परा जे विचारुनि पुनरावृत्ति । भजतीचिना ॥

On attaining self-realisation some with perfect peace of mind lose entirely the cognisance of the worldly life and its possessions Others experience infinite trance all along when their mind becomes intuned as they try to converse in words with what they see before their eyes Still others listening to the responsive conversation, forget their very existence in the Human frame And at last with the height or climax of experience, some are dissolved in the Brahman the absolute substratum As for instance several currents of rivers flowing into the ocean never turn back for want of accommodation or entrance in the ocean

Similarly the mighty sages plunge at sight headlong in the Brahman and thereafter knowingly, on purpose, avoid coming into existence again

दृष्टो नित्यमवध्याय देहेष्वस्य भाग्य ।
 तस्मात् सदाणि भूतानि न त्व नाचितु महिः ॥

The tenant occupying the Human frame or any other frame in general is immortal and cannot be killed And therefore it does not behove you to mourn over the loss of any beings in the world, at all

जे मवत्र सवही देहि । जया करिताही घातु नाही ।
 ते विद्वात्मा न घातु । चैतन एव ।

जयाचेनिस्वभावे । हे होत जात आघवे ।

तरी सांग काय शोचावे । एव तुवा ॥

एन्ही तरी पार्या । तुज का नेणो नमनेचि चित्ता ।

परी किडाळ हे शोचितां । बहुसी परी ॥

Please see that, there is only one spirit pervading the Universe, which exists every where and in all frames and can never be destroyed even if one means to do it. Every thing takes place by his will-power and therefore please say, where is the ground for you to mourn over anythings. Otherwise, I see no reason why this should not appeal to you, because it is the highest truth. Please beware, in all respects such mourning does not befit you after all. The tenets of the Sankhya Philosophy thus establish the Immortality of the Soul, no doubt. But there is one danger in this aspect of this philosophy of Immortality in the hands of persons, who are ignorant themselves and still profess to know the truth. And this danger consists in the deliberate attempt to commit suicide oneself or to kill another in cold blood without rhyme or reason, when the Human frame is the only means or weapon in their hands for material as well as spiritual ends. It is to prevent such interpretation of the Immortality in practical life, that duty devolving upon the Individual according to the laws of the Society in which he lives, has been specially emphasised upon the disciple to follow the right path, when emergency enshrouds the correct path of Action; and bewilders the Actor.

स्वधर्ममपि चावेक्ष्य न विकम्पितुमर्हसि ।

धर्म्याद्धि युद्धात् श्रेयोऽन्यत् क्षत्रियस्य न विद्यते ॥

Even if you look to the duty devolving upon you as a warrior you have no ground to hesitate. Because for a warrior nothing can be more welcome than an occasion to fight in a righteous cause,

तू भञ्जनी कां न विज्जारिसी । काय हे चित्तितु आहासि ॥

स्वधर्मु तो विसरलासि । तरावे जेणे ।

अर्जुना तुझे चित्त । जरी जाहले द्रवीभूत ॥

तरी हे अनुचित । सग्राम समयी ॥

अगा गोक्षीर जरी जाहल । तरी पय्यांसी नाहीं म्हणितले ।

ऐसेनिही विष होय सूदले । नवज्वरी देता ॥

तैसे आनीआनकरितां । नाशु होईल हिता ।

म्हणवूनि तू आतां । सावध होई ॥

Still you have time to think over what you have been arriving at. You have wholesale forgotten the duty devolving upon you as a warrior, which alone is capable of saving you from your cowardly act. My dear disciple, says the Lord, even though you are being tempted to be merciful, such kindness on your part is altogether misplaced in the thick of fight ahead of you. Please see, even milk cannot be prescribed as a diet when the patient is down with typhoid, as it will act as a poison to him. Therefore, misplacing one thing for another is bound to result in destruction. Please therefore be cautious at this stage.

यदृच्छन्वा क्षोपपन्नं स्वर्गद्वारमपावृतम् ।

सुखिनः क्षत्रियाः पार्यलभन्ते युद्धमीदृशम् ॥

It is good luck on the part of a warrior when he gets this chance to fight in such a battle, as it leads to the gateway of heaven.

क्षत्रिये बहूत पुण्य कीजे । तै झुज ऐसे लाहिजे ।

जैसे मार्ग जातां आइलिजे । चितामणि ॥

ना तरी जांभया पसरे मुख । तैथ अवचटे पडे पीयूख ।

तैसा संग्रामु हा देख । पातला असे ॥

It is solely due to the fruit of several good acts that a warrior gets the chance of a battle, just as a traveller luckily finds a costly jewel on the high road, or just as nectar happens to drop in a mouth opened while yawning

Then the Lord takes the occasion to paint a still more horrid picture before the disciple regarding the evil consequences that are bound to follow as a result of the inaction on the part of Arjuna, only with a view to incite him to proper action.

And at last the Lord sums up his advice in two verses as under :-

इतो वा प्राप्स्यसि स्वर्गं जिन्वा वा भोक्ष्यसे महीम् ।

तन्माहुस्तिष्ठ कर्तव्य युद्धाय कृतनिश्चयः ।

मुत्सृज्य मे ममेकृत्वा लाभालाभौ जयाजयौ ।

मनो युद्धाय युग्यम्व नैव पाप मवाप्स्यसि ॥

If you meet with death in the battle you will go to heaven and if you will win, you will be the ruler of the Earth. Please therefore summon up courage and fight on with firm determination. Plea

therefore be indifferent to pleasure or pain, gain or loss or victory or defeat and be ready to fight on. And you will thus be free from any taint of sin.

सुखी संतोषा न यावे । दुःखी विपादा न भजावे ।
 आणि लाभालाभ न घरावे । मनामाजी ॥
 एथ विजयपण होईल । की सर्वथा देह जाईल ।
 हे आघीचिकाही पुढील । चिंतावेना ॥
 आपणपया उचिता । स्वधर्म राहाटता ।
 जे पावे ते निवाता । साहोनि जावे ॥ २२८

Do not exult to gain favourable results nor lose courage with sad experiences. And never set you eye on gain or loss in your actions. Never think of victory or death before-hand when you fight on. Bear patiently the consequences when you discharge your duties according to your conscience and environments.

The Lord, after this, puts an end to his discussion of the tenets of the Sankhya Philosophy.

There are according to the song two paths leading to the Gate way of Providence or Brahman the Absolute for ultimate immersion in the infinite Brahman viz the Path of wisdom and the path of action.

एषा तेऽभिहितवाग्राह्ये बुद्धिर्योगेऽस्मिन्मातृनु ।
 बुद्ध्याप्युक्तो यया पार्थ बभूव धर्मं प्रहास्यति ॥ ३९

The Human body is the only property or machine at the disposal of all Human beings with the

help of which they can attain self realisation. The exquisite skill in order to find out the shortest cut for the gate way of Providence lies in having an exact analysis of this composite frame, which couceals the spirit inside.

The spirit inside lies hidden deep in the composite frame. This frame is to be detached from the spuit inside. And naturally there can be two ways to attain this detachment. One will be, not to make use of the several parts of the machine and allow them to wither away or rust automatically and the second will be to make a judicious use of them all and thereby cause them to wear away by exhaustion. When this detachment is achieved by withering away or wearing away, the inner spirit will be free to come out and manifest itself before the seeker. And this is God realisation. The analytical method of withering away is the Sankhya method, the synthetical method of wearing away is the Karmayoga method to approach the gate way.

सैन्यं अवधेचि मरावे । मय राज्यपदं हातासि यावे ।

सैन्यं असताचि राज्यं करावे । हे तो वळेना ॥

The ambition to rule when the entire army has perished is ridiculous. To become the ruler when the army is intact, is exactly what is to be desired.

The Lord says " So far I have dealt with the Sankhya doctrine or the path of wisdom. Please listen to the tenets of the path of action now. And

with your intellect riveted on this path of action, you will automatically be free from the bonds of actions themselves done by you."

नेहाभिक्रमनाशोऽतः प्रत्यवायो न विद्यते ।

स्वल्पमप्यस्य घर्मस्य प्रायते महतो भयात् ॥ ४०

Here, there is no break in the continuity (i. e. the path of wisdom is still there at the back to guide the actions) and there is also no danger of any interruption. Howsoever small may be the progress on this path, it will still save you from even a precipitate fall. Now this path of action is more suited for human beings to follow as it is the easier of the two to act upon, without losing sight of the goal ahead. Besides though this 2nd path seems apparently to vary from the 1st, in actual practice this path not only includes the inherent principles of the path of wisdom, but in addition enjoins upon the Actor, to be heedless to the results or fruits of the actions performed.

अर्जुना ते पुण्यवशे । जरी अल्पचि हृदयी बुद्धि प्रकाशे ।

तरी अशेषही नाशे । सत्तारभय ॥

The Lord says to Arjuna, if on the strength of the merits of your former life, the light of intuition dawns in your heart, even to a very small extent, it will completely set aside the danger of the cycle of births and deaths

स्ववसायादिवका बुद्धिरेवेह कुरानन्दन ।

बहुनासा ह्यनन्ताच्च बुद्धयोऽप्यवभाषिणाम् ॥

The intellectual faculty of discrimination and determination if firm, is only one and if wavering it leads to several off-shoots and makes the victim quite unsteady.

तैसी दुर्लभ जे सदबुद्धि । जिये परमात्माचि अवधि ।
जैसा गंगेसी उदधी । निरंतर ॥
तैसे ईश्वरावाचुनि कांही । जिये आणीक लाणी नाही ।
ते एकचि बुद्धि पाही । अर्जुना जगी ॥

Rare is the unalloyed intellect, which has for its destination or goal the vision of the Lord alone, as ocean is the destination to the current of the Ganges.

Therefore, that type of intellect, which has for its destination nothing but the vision of the Lord, is only one and final in the whole world

येर ते दुर्मती । जे बहुधा असे विकरती ।
तेश निरंतर रमती । अविवेकिये ॥
म्हणीनि तया पार्था । स्वर्ग ससार नरकावस्था ।
आत्ममुख सर्वथा । दृष्ट नाही ॥

Whereas the diseased and perverted intellect pleases only the thoughtless victims, as it branches off in several directions of virtues as well as vices And hence these victims ever hanker after pleasures of the world, heaven and hell, the vision of the Lord remaining perpetually out of their sight.

यामिमां पुष्पितां वाचं प्रवदन्त्यविपश्चितः ।
वेदवादग्न. पार्थं नान्यदस्मीतिवादिनः ।

॥ श्रीगणेशाय नमः ॥ स्वर्गपरा जन्मकर्मफलप्रदाम् ॥
 क्रियाविशेषबहुला भोगैश्वर्यगतिं प्रति ॥
 भोगैश्वर्यप्रसक्तानां तयापिबहुतेतराम् ॥
 व्यसनायात्मिका बुद्धिः समोधी न विधीयते ॥

Those foolish ones, who take their stand on the dictum of the Vedas, and who boldly state that there is nothing else beyond this dictum, revel all along in this pompous talk. They are ever hankering after desires and pleasures in the heaven, and enjoyment of Sovereign dignity resulting from their specific and prolific activities which ultimately lead to the cycle of births and fresh performances again and again. They are craving for enjoyment and authority and when their mind is thus absorbed by these thoughts, their faculty of discrimination and determination becomes unhinged and entirely slippery or flexible.

॥ देव अमृतं भोजयतां तो पाये हाणोनि उलडिला ॥
 सैना नामितो धर्म आपुला हेतुकरणे ॥

As a pitcher of Nectar, secured as a game of chance or fate is deliberately over-turned with a kick, similarly they spoil their meritorious deeds by hankering after the fruits resulting therefrom.

॥ निगुणविषया वेदा निरंगुण्यो भवान् ॥
 निरङ्गो नित्यसत्त्वस्थो नियोगक्षेम आत्मवान् ॥

The subject matter of the Vedas involves the influence of the three Gunas or qualities viz. Satwa, Rajas and Tamas. Therefore the Lord exhorts Arjuna

to get beyond the pale of this influence to rise superior to all opposites like pleasure and pain etc., to remain in everlasting purity of the Satwa quality, to be above want or any gain or any protection and to be content with the vision of the Lord before his eyes

तू गुणत्रयाते अट्टेरी । मी माझे हे न करी ॥

एक आत्मसुख अतरी । विसव झणी ॥

You rise superior to the three qualities, give up egoism and all attachment to every thing attached to the self and never for a moment miss the vision of self realisation and the satisfaction arising therefrom.

यावानर्थं उदपाने सर्वतः संप्लुतोदके ।

तावान् सर्वेषु वेदेषु ब्राह्मणस्य विजानतः ॥

When there are floods all around, you have to be content with the small well at your disposal. Similarly for a Brahmin having the touch of self realisation has to select from the ocean of the vedas, what appeals to him most for his self realisation.

यमन्येवाधिवारस्तो मा कश्चिद् कदाचन ।

मा कर्मकन्द्रेणुर्भूमा ते सगोऽप्यवकर्मणि ॥ ४७ ।

You have to discharge duties devolving upon you with the help of the human machine at your disposal irrespective of the results accruing therefrom. Nay further than this, your inspiration to duty itself should not proceed from the fruits attending the Acts and lastly you ought not to allow the machine to rust by inaction . . .

आम्ही समस्तही विचारिलें । तंव तंव ऐसेचि हे मना आले ।
 जे न संडिजे तुवां आपुले । विहित कर्म ॥
 परी कर्मफळी भास न करावी । आणि कुकर्म संगती न बहावी ॥
 हे सत्क्रियाचि आचरावी । हेतूविण ॥

We have considered this problem in all its aspects and have arrived at the conclusion that you should not give up your legitimate duty devolving upon you and simultaneously please set your eyes not on the fruits of actions performed nor stoop to commit any evil deeds and discharge your righteous duties as they devolve on you according to of circumstances for the sake of duty alone without any motive.

योगस्थः कुरु कर्माणि सग त्यक्त्वा धनजय ।
 निदधमिदधयो समो भूत्वा समत्वं योग उच्यते ।

With strict adherence to the path of action and void of all attachment to anything, please do your duty. Equanimity of mind in all cases of success or failure is styled as yoga.

तू योगयुक्त होऊनी । फळाचा संगु टाकुनी ।
 सग अर्जुना चित्त देऊनी । करी कर्म ॥ २-२६७
 परी आदरिले कर्म दैवे । जरी समाप्तीते पावे ।
 तरी विशेषे तेथ तोपावे । हेहि नको ॥
 की निमित्ते कोणे एके । ते सिद्धि न वचता ठाके ॥
 तरी तेथिचेनि अपरितोखे । क्षोभावे ना ॥
 आचरतां सिद्धि गेले । तरी काजाचि कीर आले ॥
 परी ठेलिपाही सगुण जाहले । ऐसेचि मानी ॥
 देखे जेनुलाळे कर्म निपजे । तेतुले आदिपुरुषा अपिजे ॥

तरी परिपूर्ण सहजे । जाहाले जाणे ॥
 देखे संतासंतकर्मी । जे हे सरिसेपण मनोधर्मी ॥
 तेचि योगस्थिती उत्तमी । प्रशंसिजे ॥
 अर्जुना समत्व चित्ताचे । तेचि सार जाण योगाचे ।
 जेय मन आणि बुद्धीचे । ऐक्य आधी ॥ २७३

Concentrate your attention on the path of action and discharge your duties, regardless of the fruits thereof. If you succeed in your actions so far so good, but even when the actions come to a standstill, be pleased that you have discharged your duty. Offer your actions to God, the supreme being and there is an end to them all. Mental equipoise in the case of both success and failure is looked upon by the learned as the height or climax of yoga. Balance of mind is the essence of yoga, wherein the mind is in perfect harmony with the intellect.

तो बुद्धियोगु विवरिता । बहुते पाडे पार्श्व ।
 दिसे हा अतर्क । कर्मयोगु ॥
 परी तेचि कर्म आचरिजे । तरीच हा योगु पाविजे ॥
 जे कर्मशेष सहजे । योगस्थिती ॥

Mere pursuit of actions stands far below the mark when compared with the Royal path of actions. Yet such actions are necessary for the achievement of the Royal path, which means and implies the termination of actions themselves.

We can cite here the living glorious example of (the Gladstone of India on Church and state), the great Lokmanya Tilak, when he, at the age of 52,

after his speech for six days during the trial, being convicted by the Judge for a term of rigorous imprisonment of six long years, began to snore and fell fast asleep in the car, which required only half an hour to reach the Mahalaxmi station, where the B. B. C. I. Railway train was kept waiting for his transportation. No wonder that the police escort conveying him to the Railway station was struck dumb with dismay at the sight of this transcendental personality. Generally a man of the world has his eye on the fruit of actions performed by him, but then an honest man following the genuine path of action in the real sense of the term, discharges his duties for the sake of duty alone and simultaneously sets his heart inwardly on the path of wisdom. And in course of time he attains that state where he is free from the bondage of births and deaths:

ते कर्मी तरी वर्तती । परी कर्मफळा नातळती ॥

आणि यातायाती लोपती । अर्जुना तथा ॥ २७८

मग निरामयभरित । पावती ५६ अच्युत ।

ते बुद्धियोगयुक्त । धनुर्धरा ॥

Active in their life, they despise the fruits of their actions and naturally they escape from the cycle of births and deaths. And these high souls, following the path of action finally reach the eternal abode of bliss.

तू ऐसा तें होसी । जें मोहाते यया माझीसी ।

आणि येराग्य मानसी । राचरेल ॥

मग निष्कलंक गहन । उपजेल आत्मज्ञान ।
तेजे नि चाडे होईल मन । अपैसे बुझे ॥

Shrikrishna exhorts Arjuna that he would also attain that state, when he would give up his ignorance and inculcate the spirit of genuine renunciation. This stage would automatically be followed by the advent or birth of self knowledge and thus his vision would be cleared up. This is the philosophy and this is god realisation

As per सत्त्वमसि which is श्रुतिवाक्य -

श्रुतिविप्रतिपन्ना ते यदा स्थास्यति निश्चला ।
समाधावचला बुद्धिस्तदा योगमवाप्स्यसि ॥
इन्द्रियाक्षिया सगती । जिये पसरू होतसे मती
ने स्थिर होईल मागुती । आत्मस्वरूपी ।
ममाधिमुखी केवळ । जे बुद्धि होईल निश्चल ।
ते पावसी तूं सकळ । योगस्थिती ॥

When your intellect confounded by the over much reading of the Vedas, comes to a standstill, and the intuition thus awakened is riveted on the realisation of your own self, then you will have attained that state when the individual soul will be linked with the Universal Soul i. e. the Brahman Absolute. The mind and intellect confounded by their contact with the senses and the sense-objects, will gradually come to a standstill and will be riveted on the realisation of their own self resulting from the awakening of the intuition. You will attain that state when the individual soul will be united with the

Universal Soul, when your mind and intellect will be calm and the intuition thus awakened will result in the manifestation of the soul inside. Thus God realisation is a process and not an end in itself. It leads to God intoxication and final immersion in God.

स्थितप्रज्ञस्य का भाषा समाधिस्थस्य केवळ ।

स्थितधीः किं प्रभाषेत किमासीत ब्रजेत किम् ॥ ५४

At these words, Arjuna asks the Lord to explain to him the characteristic features with respect to his actions, movements, speech etc of the person, who has attained the stage of such beautification and union with the Infinite Brahman.

प्रजहाति यदा कामान् सर्वान् पार्थ मनोगतान् ॥

आत्मन्येवात्मना तुष्टः स्थितप्रज्ञस्तदोच्यते ॥ ५५

दुःखेष्वनुद्विग्नमनाः सुखेषु विगतस्पृहः ।

वीतरागभयक्रोधः स्थितधीर्मुनिरुच्यते ॥ ५६

यः सर्वत्रानभिस्नेहः तत् तत् प्राप्य शुभागुभम् ।

नाभिनन्दति न द्वेष्टि तस्य प्रज्ञा प्रतिष्ठिता ॥ ५७

यदा सहस्ते चार्य कूर्मोऽङ्गानीव सर्वगः ।

इन्द्रियाणीन्द्रियार्थेभ्यस्तस्य प्रज्ञा प्रतिष्ठिता ॥ ५८

These four verses delineate the characteristic features i.e. Speech etc of the स्थितप्रज्ञः :-

- (1) Such a person, says the Lord, gives up all desires secretly 'lurking in his mind and is quite content with the 'self' manifestation or vision of God in front of him.
- (2) He is heedless to the pain or pleasure arising from the events of grief or happiness

a) 'and remains undisturbed from' emotions
 b) causing satisfaction, fear or wrath.
 viz.) Compare. प्रसन्नतां यानगताऽभिपेक्षतः ।
 तथैव प्रसन्नतां यानगताऽभिपेक्षतः ।

The great Ram did not feel exulted when he was to be crowned with the emblems of the Prince, nor did he sink down with dejection, - when he was exiled to the forest.

(3) He remains unattached even though he meets with incidents favourable or unfavourable and rises superior to all happenings causing happiness or hatred

(4) He is prepared to welcome objects of enjoyment at will and is ready to renounce them all instantaneously like a tortoise outstretching or expanding and retracting its limbs at will, thus keeping his senses under control from sense objects, which are likely to attract his attention.

अथ च विषया विनिवर्तन्ते निराहारस्य देहिनिः ॥ २॥

रमयर्जे रसोऽप्यस्य पर दृष्ट्वा निवर्तते ॥ ५९ ॥

11 "The tenants of the Human machine can compel the sense-objects to recede from them by observing strict dietary control bordering on or amounting to even abstinence from food; yet the craving for the sense-objects stealthily, lurking in the remotest recesses of the heart, persists, until the hidden

souls manifest themselves before the eyes, or until they have the vision of the Lord viz God-realisation before their eyes.

रागद्वेषवियुक्तैस्तु विषयानिन्द्रियैश्चरन् ।

आत्मवश्यैर्विधेयात्मा प्रसादमधिगच्छति ॥

Thereafter the Lord says that the moisture of the grace of God descends upon him, who in the midst of enjoyment keeps his senses under control and free from affection or hatred towards the sense-objects.

प्रसादे सर्वदुःखानां हानिरस्योपजायते ।

प्रमत्तचेतसो ह्यागं बुद्धिं पर्यवतिष्ठते ॥ २-६५

With the grace of God all miseries come to an end and when one attains mental equipoise, his intellect remains automatically riveted on the Lord the Eternal Brahman.

देखी अखडित प्रमत्तता । आधी जेथ चित्ता ।

तेथे रिगणे नाही समस्ता । संसारदुःखा ॥

जैसा अमृताचा निरस । प्रसादे जयाचा जठर ॥

तया दुष्टेनृपेचा अडदर । बहीचि नाही ।

तैसे हृदय प्रमत्त होये । तरी दुःख कौने के आहे ॥

तेथ आपैमी बुद्धि राहे । परमात्महरी ॥

जैसा निर्वाणीचा दीपु । सर्वथा नेणे बंधू ॥

तैसा स्थिरबुद्धि स्वम्यरूपु । योग्यवस्तु ॥

Worldly miseries find no soft corner whethre there is uninterrupted mental equipoise, just as a person endowed with glands in his stomach, secreting

Nectar, never feels the pinch of hunger or thirst. Similarly no touch of sorrow can affect a still mind and his intellect rests motionless as riveted on the Lord just as a flame does not flicker in a breezeless place. Similarly a person with his steady intellect coupled with mental equipoise remains entirely absorbed in the infinite Brahman, which is nothing but his own image. '1

Towards the close of the chapter, the Lord paints the ideal picture of such a person again four fold.

These four aspects are like the four legs of a stool which remains in perfect state of equilibrium.

या निशा सर्वभूतानां । तस्यां जागर्ति संयमी ।

यस्या जाग्रति भूतानि । सा निशा पश्यतो मुनेः ॥ ६९

आपूर्यमाणमचलप्रतिष्ठं समुद्रमाप प्रविशन्ति यद्वत् ।

तद्वत्कामा यं प्रविशन्ति सर्वे । स शान्तिमाप्नोति न कामकामी ॥७०

विहाय कामान्य. सर्वान्पुमाश्चरतिः निःस्पृहः ॥

निर्ममो निरहंकारः स शान्तिं विगच्छति ॥ ७१

एषा ब्रह्मी स्थितिः पार्थ नैना प्राप्य विमुह्यति ॥

स्थित्वाऽस्यामन्तकालेऽपि ब्रम्हनिर्वाणमुच्छति ॥ ७२

(1) He is indifferent to objects which excite the attention of the common mass of humanity and he feels keenly interested where the common mass is entirely apathetic. This amounts to

स्थितप्रज्ञः किमासीत् -

(2) Just as the ocean is still even when streams of rivers flow in from all sides, similarly he feels

undisturbed when the senses are surrounded with sense-objects from all sides and remains in perfect peace of mind. This amounts to—

स्थित प्रज्ञः किं प्रभाषेत् ।

For example, the great Lokmanya Tilak visited Sangli in the last days of his life. During his stay at Sangli, he unhesitatingly complied with the request of more than fifty families to sanctify their homes by his visit. At every place, along with others, he was offered eatables with a cup of milk and he did justice every-where by sucking up his finger-end dipped in a tiny spoonful from the cup of milk.

(3) Such a person, being indifferent to sense-objects moves about void of all attachment and loses all consciousness about his self and any thing attached to the self. This amounts to स्थितप्रज्ञः किं ब्रूते i. e. he realises that he is surrounded by Brahman on all sides. This is God-Intoxication or अहं ब्रह्मास्मि ।

(4) This state of the individual is the final state of beatification and there he remains above all temptations and even when he has to cast off this tabernacle, he plunges head long into the infinite Brahman

This is God Immersion. सर्वसंयुद्धग्रह—
This is the ideal picture of the person painted by Lord Shri-Krishna for Arjuna and this is infact the philosophy of the Goal to be reached by mortals.

How to achieve this end, forms part of the science of God-realisation and this scientific explanation begins with the 3rd chapter.

That the realisation of God also is a graded course to follow in the spiritual realm, as we have graded courses to follow in the Universities of the material world, is borne out in clear terms by the following extracts from Dr. Gurudeo Ranade's "Pathway to God" (H L) page 40/

If we were just to analyse the different attitudes with which philosophers at different times have approached such an ultimate question of 'Knowledge'. We can say that there are four such attitudes possible, - the attitude of the Sophists, Socrates, Shuka and Kabir. If now we were asked to mention tersely the central points in the attitudes, we might say on the whole that the Sophists did not know that they did not know. Socrates knew that he did not know. Shuka did not know that he knew. And Kabir knew that he knew. This knowledge gave Kabir the confidence that he had reached the highest state of beatification and that he would never be born again.

तन्त्रममि, अहम्ब्रह्मास्मि, सर्वसत्त्वं इदं ब्रह्म -

God realisation, God Intoxication, God Immersion are therefore stages of spiritual development. . .

Shrimat Shankaracharya also supports the same reasoning.

आदौ ब्रह्माहमस्मीत्यनुभवउदिते खल्विदं ब्रह्मपश्चात् ॥

No. 3 The century of verses-

Experience of

“ God-intoxication precedes

that of God-immersion ”

CHAPTER III

The Science of God realisation God Intoxication and God Immersion begins:—

तिजो केवल कर्म प्रतिष्ठिते । Mere action is propounded in the 3rd chapter.

ज्वायसी चेतकर्मणस्ते मता बुद्धिर्जनादेन ।

तत्किं कर्मणि घोरे मां नियोजयसि केशव ॥ ३:१

Now, Arjuna, being enamoured of the ideal picture of the स्थितप्रज्ञ painted by the Lord in the last chapter, asks the Lord, as to why, inspite of the ideal, he is persuaded to pass through the flames of the fight ahead of him.

Arjuna says, to the Lord, You advocate the path of wisdom in preference to the path of action and still you are driving me to pass through the flames of the fight ahead of me.

The answer, says the Lord, is simple enough

लोकैर्मन्त्रिद्विविधा निष्टा पुरा प्रोक्ता मया जगत् ।

ज्ञानयोगेन माय्याना कर्मयोगेन योगिनाम् ॥ ३-३

The Lord says that he has advocated the two-fold path-way leading to the gate way of Providence viz the path of wisdom for the Sankhyas and the path of Action for the Yogins.

तेमी दोनोही मते । मूखिनी एका कारणाते ॥

परी उपाति ते योग्यते । अधिन असे ॥ ४०

देखे उत्प्लवनासरिसा । पक्षी फळासि सोबि जैसा
 सागे नरु केवी तैसा । पावे वेगा ? ॥
 तो हळू हळू ढाडेंढाळें । केतुलेनि एके वेळे ।
 मागचिनि बळें । निश्चित ठाके । . . .
 तैसें देख पां विहगममते । अधिपूनि ज्ञानाते ।
 साख्य सद्य मोक्षाते । आकळिती ॥
 येरयोगिये कर्माधारे । विहितेंचि निजाचारे ।
 पूर्णता अवसरें । पावते होती ॥ ४४

Both the paths lead to the same goal, no doubt, but the adoption of the path depends entirely on the capacity of the person who follows it. A bird perches on the fruit of a tall tree with a single flight of its wings. But a human being can hardly get that speed. He will gradually in course of time achieve that end definitely no doubt, provided he keeps to the road all along. In the same manner the Sankhyas following the path of wisdom, instantaneously achieve liberation, like Adya Shri Shankaracharya, Shri Dnyaneshwar and the like, whereas the yogins following the path of action achieve perfection in course of time.

Hence is the necessity for mortals to follow the Path of action. Here at this stage, if we look to the genesis, just as ice, water and vapour are the forms of water alone, similarly the Brahma or the Infinite Absolute, Adhyatma and the Nature or Karma. (विमर्गः कर्मगर्जितः The creation the world or worlds) are the forms of the same Brahman alone.

Thus the entire creation has sprung up from Brahman and is pervaded and infiltrated with it, all through inside as well as outside.

The creation being Brahman itself in another form, human beings of the world, after they have passed through the various cycles of birth and deaths in several forms, have their ultimate goal to identify themselves with the infinite Brahman.

There are different views regarding the origin and existence of the Universe. Some hold that it is real. Others are of opinion that it is unreal in the sense that it is changing every moment.

अरे जे झालेचि नाही । त्याची वार्ता पुसती काई । says Swami Ramdas in Dasbodha How can we say anything about what has not come into being at all ? The why of the universe is still the question unanswered The how of it is being discussed in various ways Shrimat Shankaracharya says—

क्रीडार्थं नृजति प्रपन्नमसिल क्रीडामृगास्ते जनाः ।
यत्कर्मचरितं मयाच भवतु प्रीत्यै भवत्येवतत् ॥
सम्भो स्वम्य पुत्रहृल्लभ्य करणं मच्चेषितं निश्चितम् ।
तस्मान् मामक रक्षणं पशुपते कर्तव्यमेवत्वया ॥ ६६

Shivanand Lahari

Oh Lord, you have created the world as a source of recreation for you and the Human beings are playing the role of animals in your circus. All my actions are being done by me entirely with the object

of pleasing you. I am dancing Oh Lord according as you are pleased to direct, in order to satisfy your curiosity and therefore, my lord, it is upto you as an obligation to protect me.

It is an axiomatic truth "that nothing is lost in Nature," according to the Science of Chemistry. And the celestial song also in the 2nd chapter says—

न त्वेवाहं जातु नाऽऽसं न त्व नेमे जनाधिपा ।

न चैव न भविष्यामः सर्वे वयमत परम् ॥ २।१२ ॥

It is not indeed the case that you and I and all these rulers never existed before; nor shall it ever happen that all of us shall cease to exist hereafter.

Just as when the breeze is there, ripples do rise on the surface of water. Yet when the breeze is still, the surface become plain again.

The substance remains the same but there are changes in the appearances or forms of the same substance.

Now, when the human beings in the creation are mere transformations of Brahman itself, it behoves all beings in Nature to make judicious use of the material placed at their disposal by Providence.

And therefore the Lord advises Arjuna, in the course of conversation, to discharge his legitimate duties.

नियतं कुरु कर्म त्वं कर्म ज्यायो ह्यकर्मणः ।

अतीरयात्राऽपि च ते न प्रतियुज्येदकर्मणः ॥ २।८

The Lord exhorts him to act (in the living present) according to destiny; because action was to be preferred to inaction and that life itself would not be prolonged or continued if he were to pursue inaction.

મહાશી જૈં જૈં ઉચિત । આણિ અવમરેકહનિ પ્રાપ્ત ।
તે કર્મ હેતુરહિત । આચરેં તૂ ॥
દેલે અનુક્રમાધારે । સ્વધર્મુ જો આચરે ।
તો મોક્ષુ તેજે વ્યાપારેં । નિશ્ચિત પાવે ॥ ૮૦

And hence perform your duties, as they devolve upon you in course of time, according as they are advisable, without setting your eye on the fruits thereof.

And therefore one who does the duties as prescribed by the scriptures, according to the procedure laid down and without any motive behind them, definitely finds his way to salvation as a result of the duties performed

यत्तार्थात्कर्मणोऽन्यत्र लोकोऽयं कर्मबन्धनः ।
तदर्थं कर्म कौन्तेय मुक्तसङ्ग समाचर ॥ ३-९

The whole world is involved in the vicious circle of actions from which there is no escape, excepting when the actions are intended for the purpose of a sacrifice. The Lord therefore exhorts Arjuna to perform such acts i. e. the latter alone and those also without attachment.

स्वधर्मं जो पापा । तोचि नित्ययज्ञ जाणपां ।

म्हणोनि वर्तता तेथ पापा । संचारू नाही ॥ ३।८१

Discharge of duties according to scriptures is in itself akin to the daily sacrifice and therefore there is no scope therein for any sins to creep in.

सह्यज्ञाः प्रजाः सृष्ट्वा पुरोवाच प्रजापतिः ।

अनेन प्रसविष्यध्वं एष वोऽस्त्विष्टकामधुक् ॥ ३।१०

Here the Lord describes the origin of the Universe and they were simultaneously ordained to execute the daily rituals and sacrifices, with the help of which they were directed by the creator to continue their progeny and gain their desired objects.

यज्ञशिष्टाशिनः सन्तो मुच्यन्ते सर्वकिल्बिषैः ।

भुंजन्ते ते त्वधं पापाः ये पचन्त्यात्मकारणात् ॥ ३।१३

Those that enjoy the residue after spending for the rituals and the sacrifices, escape from all types of sins; whereas those that strive for objects of enjoyment for the satisfaction of their own senses, reap only the harvest of sins arising therefrom. The springing up of the animate beings or the animate world is traced by the Lord to its remotest origin as under—

अन्नात् भवन्ति भूतानि पर्जन्यादन्न संभवः ।

यज्ञात् भवति पर्जन्यो यज्ञः कर्म समुद्भवः ॥ ३-१४

कर्म ब्रह्मोद्भवं विद्धि ब्रह्माक्षरसमुद्भवम् ।

तस्मात् सर्वं गतं ब्रह्मनित्यं यज्ञे प्रतिष्ठितम् ॥ ३-१५

The living beings were launched into existence after providing food for their sustenance Food comes

in from rain. 'Rain is the result of sacrifices. Sacrifices are the result of actions or duties performed. The duties are ordained by Brahman the absolute or the Vedas. This two fold aspect of the Brahman has its origin in the Infinite Absolute substratum. And hence this Brahman pervades all this series and thus permeates the sacrifices. Here is unfolded in unequivocal terms the origin of the Universe viz. ब्रह्माक्षरसमुद्भवम् । It will, therefore, be in the fitness of things at this stage, if we survey the title of the 8th Chapter which is अक्षरब्रह्मयोगोनाम अष्टमोऽध्यायः ।

The animate world or beings and the Human beings in particular are out of Brahman which is traced to the Eternal Absolute ultimately.

Now the Human beings, while passing in this world through the cycle of births and deaths, have one day to seek their original abode which is अक्षरब्रह्म the title of the 8th chapter. The intermediate chapters from 3rd to 8th describe in detail the path to be followed by aspirants to reach this goal, and in the light of this statement, in particular, the intervening chapters will be scrutinised in the following pages.

Practically the story of the celestial song begins with ब्रह्माक्षर समुद्भवम् in the 15th verse of this 3rd chapter and ends with अक्षरब्रह्मयोगोनाम अष्टमोऽध्यायः the title of the 8th chapter, the message delivered in योगीपरं स्थान

मुपैतिचाद्यत्, which is the last line of the last verse of the last chapter of the story proper.

All honour and glory to the unbounded intellect of Maharshi Vedavyasa who could thus summarise the message of the celestial song of Lord Shri Krishna as Composed by him, in eleven syllables, which are powerful enough to cause the descent of the soul hidden inside the Human frame.

॥ आत्मा अवतरवी तेमन्त्र । अक्षरे इये
एव प्रवर्तित च नानुवर्तयतीह यः ।
अधायुरिन्द्रियारामो मोघ पार्थ स जीवति । ३।१६

This is in fact the cyclic order regarding the sacrifices and one who ignoring their significance, finds delight in the sense objects in order to satisfy his senses, leads his life replete with sins and to no purpose.

यस्त्वात्मरतिरेव स्यादात्मनृप्तश्च मानवः ।
आत्मन्येव च सतुष्टस्तस्य कार्यं न विद्यते ॥ ३।१७

Whereas one who feels interested in the realisation of his own self and is content within himself and feels thoroughly satisfied with the manifestation of his own soul, ever remains exempted or aloof from all duties to be discharged.

नैव तस्य कृतेनार्घो नाकृतेनेह कश्चन ।
न चास्य सर्वभूतेषु कश्चिदयं व्यपाश्रयः ॥ ३-१८

No purpose is served by any acts done or by acts not done, in the case of such a person Nor does

there exist for him any purpose whatever (depending for its fulfilment) upon any other beings in general.

तृप्ति जालिया जैसी । साधनें सरती आपैसी ।

देखें आत्मतुष्टी तैसी । कर्म नाही ॥ ३-१४८

जबबारी अर्जुना । तो बोध भेदेना मना ।

तबचि यया साधना । भजावें लागें ॥ ३-१४९

All actions automatically come to an end, once the bliss of the self is attained; just as all the means come to an end, once the object is realised. So long as the realisation of the self is not achieved, the means to that end can hardly be dispensed with.

तस्मात् असक्तः सततं कार्यं कर्म समाचर ।

असक्तो ह्याचरन् कर्म परमाप्नोति पूरपः ॥ ३-१९

The Lord says to Arjuna

Discharge your duties without attachment for the sake of duty alone. Duties discharged without attachment automatically lead to the attainment of Eternal bliss.

यद्यदाचरति श्रेष्ठस्तत्तदेवेतरो जनः ।

स यत्प्रमाणं कुरुते लोकस्तदनुवर्तते ॥ ३-२१

The ordinary mass of people follows the example of the eminent personalities. And the world conforms to the standard set up by them.

सक्ताः कर्मण्यविद्वांसो यथा कुर्वन्ति भारत ।

कुर्याद्विद्वास्तथाऽसक्तश्चिकीर्षुर्लोकसंग्रहम् ॥ ३-२५

Just as worldly persons do their duties with their hearts intent on their acts, similarly should the

learned behave, but with feelings of pure-non-attachment to the acts performed by them.

प्रकृतेः क्रियमाणानि गुणैः कर्माणि भवन्ति ।

अहंकारविमूढात्मा कर्ताऽहमिति मन्यते ॥ ३-२७

All acts done by individuals are the doings of the qualities inherent in nature (प्रकृति) whereas an ignorant person deems himself to be the author of the acts done by him.

तत्त्ववित्तु महाबाहो गुणकर्मविभागयो ।

गुणा गुणेषु वर्तन्त इति मत्वा न सज्जते ॥ ३-२८

Whereas a philosopher and a saint who can discriminate between the qualities inherent in nature and the actions performed at his hands, remains unattached to the authorship thereof, leaving the qualities unbridled to play their respective rôle.

मयि सर्वाणि कर्माणि संन्यस्याध्यात्मचेतसा ।

निराशीनिर्ममो भूत्वा युध्यस्व विगतज्वर ॥ ३-३०

The Lord says dedicate all your actions to me. Turn your mind inwards towards the self or spirit within you. Despise all your desires, be free from egoism and fight on without being excited with the passion for fighting

धेयान्स्वधर्मो विगुणः परधर्मात्स्वनुष्ठितात् ।

स्वधर्मो निघ्न धेयः परधर्मो भयावहः ॥ ३-३५ ॥

Discharge your duties that have fallen to your lot; and they are to be preferred to those that have

gone to another's share. Even death is to be preferred in the discharge of your legitimate duties. It is dangerous to pursue what has fallen to another's lot.

म्हणानी आणि कांसी जे विहित । आणि आपण पैसां अनुचित ।

ते नाचराखें जरी हित । विचारजे ॥ ३-२२८

"It is not conducive to your interest if you pursue the path prescribed for others and which is at the same time detrimental to your own welfare."

Arjuna says—

अय केन प्रपुस्तोऽयं पापं चरति पूरुषः ।

अनिच्छन्नपि बाणैश्च बलादिव नियोजितः ॥ ३-२३

At this stage Arjuna asks the Lord, as to what is the driving force at whose instigation, a person is tempted to commit sins even against his will and as it were through forceful compulsion.

The Lord Says—

काम एव क्रोध एव रजोगुणसमुद्भवः ।

महाशनो महाबाह्वा विद्महेनमिह वैरिणम् ॥ ३-३७

The Lord says, It is the lust and wrath arising from the quality of Rajas inherent in nature or Prakrati which are both powerful devourers (with hunger ever unsatiated) and which are hardened sinners and hence treat them as your inveterate foes.

तरी हे काम क्रोध पाही । जयातें कृपेची साठवण नाही ।

हे कृतांताच्या ठायी । मानिजता ॥ ३-२४०

These lust and wrath are the very God of destruction or death incarnate, having not even the slightest trace of mercy.

हे चैतन्याचे शेजारी । वसती ज्ञानाच्या एका हारी ।
 म्हणोनि प्रवृत्तले महामारीः सावरती ना ॥ २५६
 हे, घास्त्रेंवीण साध्विती । दोरें, वीण बाध्विती ।
 ज्ञानियासी तरी, वध्विती । पैज घेऊनी ॥ २५८

They rest quite close to the life force itself and occupy the rank or seat along with knowledge and cannot be bridled when once they are let loose in their work of destruction. They kill without weapons, they bind without ropes and victimise the learned in particular on oath.

हे चिखलेंवीण रोविती । पांशिकेंवीण गोविती ।
 हे कवणाजोगें न होती । आर्ताटेपणें ॥ २५९

They bury without mud, they captivate without nets and cannot be seized or bridled due to their stubborn nature.

धूमेनाऽऽव्रियते, वह्निर्यथाऽऽदसौ मलेन च ।
 यथोत्वेनाऽऽवृतो गर्भस्तथा तेनेदमावृतम् ॥ ३८ ॥

Fire is enveloped by smoke, a mirror by dust or a foetus by its amnion and chorion (covering membranes) Similarly they enshroud the knowledge of a person.

आवृतं ज्ञानमेतेन ज्ञानिनो नित्यवैरिणा ।
 कामरूपेण कौन्तेय दूष्पूरेणानलेन च ॥ ३९

The very knowledge of a learned person is enveloped by this his eternal enemy in the form of lust which is burning with its insatiable flames.

इन्द्रियाणि मनो बुद्धिरस्याधिष्ठानमुच्यते ।

एतैर्विमोहयत्येष ज्ञानमावृत्य देहिनम् ॥ ३-४०

The Senses, the mind and the intellect are its permanent residence, and with their help it obscures the knowledge of a person and bewilders the inner spirit or soul.

तस्मात्त्वमिन्द्रियाण्यादौ नियम्य भरतर्षभ ।

पाप्मानं प्रजहि ह्येनं ज्ञानविज्ञाननाशनम् ॥ ३-४१

Therefore you control your senses and destroy this sinful creature or object which obscures the knowledge or understanding capacity as well as the practical results accruing therefrom i. e. from the application of knowledge.

इन्द्रियाणि पराण्याहुरिन्द्रियेभ्यं परं मनः ।

मनस्तु परा बुद्धिर्यो बुद्धेः परतस्तु सः ॥ ३-४२

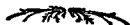
The sense centres are beyond the gross senses, the mind is beyond the sense-centres, the intellect beyond the mind and it is He (The soul) who is beyond the Intellect.

एवं बुद्धेः परं बुद्ध्वा संस्तभ्याऽऽत्मानमात्मना ।

जहि शत्रुं महाबाहो कामरूपं दुरासदम् ॥ ३-४३

Thus realise Him who resides beyond the Intellect by controlling yourselves with your own efforts and root out this enemy in the form of lust who is so difficult to captivate

Here ends the 3rd chapter entitled as कर्मयोगो नाम तृतीयोऽध्यायः ।



CHAPTER IV

तिथी केवल कर्म प्रतिष्ठिते । तेचि चतुर्थी ज्ञानेशी प्रगटिते

In the 3rd chapter mere actions are enjoined upon the Actor; and in the 4th these actions are linked with the knowledge of self-realisation.

At the beginning of the 3rd Chapter, the Lord has explained to Arjuna, that there are two paths leading to the Gateway of Providence viz. The Path of Wisdom and the Path of Action and that the latter was to be preferred by the ordinary human beings,, being easier of the two to follow.

While advising the pursuit of the Path of Action the Lord has incidentally traced the origin of the Universe to the Infinite Absolute or the original Abode and has laid down that a judicious pursuit of this Path of Action will lead ultimately to the Same Infinite Absolute which is the original Abode.

During the course of this sojourn, a human being has to pass through various obstacles and pitfalls and has to face a very dangerous and Inveterate foe on the way viz. The lust or insatiable desire for sexual as well as other pleasures, which, if fulfilled, results in greed or if remaining unsatiated gives rise to loss of temper or wrath.

Now, we find the Path of Action explained in greater details in the 4th Chapter leading ultimately

to the REALISATION OF THE SELF WHICH IS A
CONDITION PRECEDENT TO THE THOROUGH
COMPREHENSION OF THE UNIVERSAL ASPECT OF THE
INFINITE ABSOLUTE.

The Lord says:—

इमं विवस्वते योगं प्रोक्तवानहमव्ययम् ।
विवस्वान् मनवे प्राह मनुरिक्ष्वाकवेऽब्रवीत् ॥ १ ।
एवं परंपराप्राप्तमिमं राजर्षयो विदुः ।
स कालेनेह महता योगो नष्टः परतप ॥ २ ।
स एवायं मया तेऽद्य योगः प्रोक्तः पुरातनः ।
भवतोऽग्नि मे सखा चेति रहस्यं ह्येतदुत्तमम् ॥ ३ ।

I have explained this ever-lasting or eternal-yoga
to the Sun, who in turn gave it to Manu and Manu
to Ikshvaku 1)

The sages of the Royal race traditionally handed-
down this for generations and in course of time it
became extinct. (2)

The Self-same yoga of antiquity have I commu-
nicated to you to-day, since you are my friend devoted
to me and this yoga is a most valuable secret. (3)

Arjuna is naturally surprised at this and asks
the Lord as to how, he being of a later origin could
communicate this yoga to Vivaswan of bygone times.
The Lord says —

बहूनि मे व्यतीतानि जन्मानि तव चार्जुन ।
तान्यहं वेद सर्वाणि न त्वं वेत्स्य परतप ॥ ४-५ ॥

अजोऽपि सन्नव्ययात्मा भूतानामीश्वरोऽपि सन् ।
 प्रकृतिं स्वामधिष्ठाय संभवाम्यात्ममायया ॥ ४-६
 यदा यदा हि धर्मस्य ग्लानिर्भवति भारत ।
 अभ्युत्थानमधर्मस्य तदात्मानं सृजाम्यहम् ॥ ४-७

Both of us are born several times so far. But my memory is fresh with respect to them all, where as you have forgotten them all (5)

I am never born, I am immutable, I am the Lord of all the Creation, yet I seem to play the role of assuming a birth with the help of my Nature or Prakrati (6)

Whenever the religion or the righteous people are in peril, I choose to be born on earth, to remove their obstacles and re-establish the religion and restore their condition. And thus I descend on this globe from age to age. (7)

जन्म कर्म च मे दिव्यमेवं यो वेत्ति तत्त्वतः ।
 त्यक्त्वा देहं पुनर्जन्म नैति मामेति सोऽर्जुन ॥ ४-९
 वीतरागभयक्रोधा मन्मया मामुपाश्रिताः ।
 बहवो ज्ञानतपसा पूता मद्भावमागताः ४-१०

The secret is thus revealed by the Lord to Arjuna
 The Lord says—

My appearance as well as my deeds are resplendent and outstanding and he who can comprehend this aspect of mine, is not born again, when he casts off this human form and is finally absorbed in me. (9)

Several persons, who have risen above their passions and who have neither any fear nor any wrath, find resort in me to become thus identified. And purified by their penance and their wisdom, they are merged in me. (10)

Thereafter, the Lord says, the reward is given by God in proportion with the nature and quality of devotion and therefore people in general try to follow the path laid down by him i. e. God (11)

People worship several deities for the fulfilment of their desires and in this mundane sphere the common mass obtains quick results of the actions performed. (12)

चातुर्वर्ण्यं मया सृष्टं गुणकर्मविभागशः ।

तस्य कर्तारमपि मां विद्वद्यकर्तारमव्ययम् ॥ ४।१३

न मा कर्माणि लिम्पन्ति न मे कर्मफले स्पृहा ।

इति मा योऽभिजानाति कर्मभिर्न स ब्रह्मते ॥ ४।१४

हे मज्जिस्तव जहाले । परी म्या नाही केले ।

ऐसे जेणे जाणितले । तो मुटला मा ॥

एव ज्ञात्वा कृतं कर्म पूर्वैरपि मुमुक्षुभिः ।

कुरु कर्मैव तस्मात्स्व पूर्वं, पूर्वतर कृतम् ॥ ४।१५

किं कर्म किमकर्मेति कवयोऽप्यत्र मोहिताः ।

तत्ते कर्म प्रवक्ष्यामि यज्ज्ञात्वा मोक्षयसेऽशुभात् ॥ ४।१६

The fourfold caste-order has been laid down by me to the people according to the nature of their duties and capacities.

I am the source of this all and at the same time I am quite unconcerned with this, being myself immutable. (13)

My acts do not affect me, nor do I desire any fruits therefrom. He who knows this secret of mine escapes from the Bondage of his actions (14)

The creation has emanated from me, yet I am not the Author of the same. He who realises this secret escapes from the cycle of births and deaths. (Ovi)

Agelong, the ancestors have been discharging their duties riveting their attention on this aspect of mine and hence you also discharge your duties closely following in their foot-steps (15)

Even the Learned are confounded as to what they should do and what they should avoid doing

The Lord says, He would therefore advise him properly in this respect so that he might escape from their evil effects (16)

कर्मणो ह्यपि बोद्धव्यं च विकर्मणः ।

अकर्मणश्च बोद्धव्यं गहना कर्मणो गतिः ॥ १७

तरी कर्म गृह्णजे स्वभावे । जेणे विद्वत्कारु मभवे ।

ते सम्यक् आधी जाणावे । लागे एव ॥

एन्ही जग हे कर्माधीन । ऐसी याची व्याप्ती गहन

परी तें अमी आहें किन्हु । प्राप्ताचें ना ॥

कर्मण्यकर्म यः पश्येदकर्मणि च कर्म यः ।

स बुद्धिमान्मनुष्येण स युक्तः कृत्स्नकर्मणः ॥ १८

Activity, misdirected activity, non-activity,—you must realise the essential spirit of all the three types of actions. The Aspects or phases of action in general are mysterious indeed ! (17)

Action is the natural manifestation of the Universe or creation in General from the Infinite Absolute. And therefore consider the different aspects of action in everyday life.

Otherwise the very creation is the result of action itself and is controlled by action. Please listen to the signs or characteristics of a Divine Personality.

Such a person while completely immersed in action feels his complete detachment therefrom; whereas even when he stands thoroughly detached, feels as if he is deeply merged in action. He is indeed the person, who has thus comprehended the reality, and is therefore styled as the fitting Actor (on the stage of the Universe) (18)

यस्य सर्वे समारम्भा कामसकल्पवज्रिताः ।

ज्ञानाग्निदग्धकर्माणं तमाहुः पण्डितं बुधा ॥ १९

त्यक्त्वा कर्मफलाङ्गं नित्यतृप्तो निराश्रयः ।

कर्मण्यभिप्रवृत्तोऽपि नैव किञ्चित्करोति स ॥ २०

निराशीर्यतचित्तात्मा त्यक्तसर्वपरिग्रहः ।

शारीरं केवलं कर्म कुर्वन्नाप्नोति किल्बिषम् ॥ २१

When a person discharges his duties devolving upon him, for the sake of duty alone, without even the slightest trace of any motive behind them, all

his actions; are purified in the fire of resplendent knowledge; nay purified and dissolved in the flames of resplendent knowledge; and he is styled a Pandit by the wise people. (19)

When a person despises the fruits of his actions is perfectly content within himself, does not feel the necessity of any outside support and discharges the duties devolving upon him, then certainly he is not contaminated at all by the duties discharged. (20)

One who has no desire, who keeps his mind under control, who has no attachment for his possessions and performs acts mechanically with the help of his body-frame, is free from the contagion of the Acts done. (21)

यदृच्छालाभसंतुष्टो द्वंदातीतो विमत्सरः ।
 समः सिद्धावसिद्धौ च कृत्वाऽपि न निबध्यते ॥ २२
 हा मत्सर जेथ उपजे । तेतुले नुरेचि जया हुजे ।
 तो निमत्सर काइ म्हणिजे । बोलवरी ? ॥
 गत सङ्गरूप मुक्तस्य ज्ञानावस्थितचेतसः ।
 यज्ञायाऽऽचरतः कर्म समग्रं प्रविशियते ॥ २३
 ब्रह्मार्पणं ब्रह्म हविर्ब्रह्माग्नी ब्रह्मणा हुतम् ।
 ब्रह्मैव तेन गन्तव्यं ब्रह्मकर्मसमाधिना ॥ ४-२४

Content with what comes to his share for the occasion, rises superior to all happenings good or bad has no trace of envy in him, never loses the balance of his mind with success or failure, is free from the contagion of actions done by him (22)

One, who feels to be in tune with his surroundings finds nothing else or other than himself to be jealous about. Is it necessary then to talk about him to be above jealousy ? (Ovi)

One, who has no attachment, is free from bondage has his eye riveted on knowledge and performs his duties as a sacrifice, does his actions only to be dissolved in the Infinite. (23)

In the case of such a person (as noted above) the act of offering, the oblations are all aspects of the same Brahman. And therefore the goal to be attained by him through concentration upon actions which are Brahman themselves, is ultimately Brahman itself. (24)

महोनि ब्रह्म तैचि कर्म । ऐसें बोधा आले जया सम ।
तया कृतंय ते नैष्कर्म्यं । धनुधरा ॥ १२१

Hence, he, who has perfectly realised that his actions are only another form of Brahman itself, discharges his duties and still remains unconcerned with their authorship.

Hereafter several types of sacrifices are mentioned; yet to realise their significance we must trace the origin and dissolution of the Universe. Evolution of the Universe from and Involution of the Universe into the same Brahman at last.

Actions in the form sacrifices are therefore stages in the process of Involution and finally with

their help the entire Universe is thrown or drowned into the melting pot of Brahman itself.

Several such types of sacrifices are discussed in the intervening verses from Nos. 25 to 31 both inclusive and finally,

एवं बहुविधा यज्ञा वितता ब्रह्मणो मुखे ।
 कर्मजान्विद्धि तान्सर्वानिवं ज्ञात्वा विमोक्ष्यसे ॥ ४-३२
 श्रेयान्द्रव्यमयाद्यज्ञाज्ज्ञानयज्ञः परंतप ।
 सर्वं कर्माश्रितं पार्थ ज्ञाने परिममाप्यते ॥ ४-३३
 जेथ वीराग्याचा पांगु फिटें । विवेकाचाही सोसु तुटें ।
 जेथ न पाहतां सहज भेटें । आपणपें ॥ १६३

Thus several such types of sacrifices are offerings leading to the one goal viz. the Brahman.

And when you realise that they have proceeded from the actions performed, you will escape from the Bondage of births and deaths and thus will be free. (32)

Sacrifice in the form of knowledge is better than the sacrifices with material objects. Because all actions culminate finally in knowledge or realisation of the Self (33)

The realisation of self is the culmination point of renunciation. It is the fruition of Intuition. And it is the stage where your own image manifests itself, before you whether you will it or not. (Ovi)

तद्विद्धि प्रणिपातेन परिश्रमेण सेवया ।
 उपदेश्यति ते ज्ञानं शान्तिस्तत्त्वदर्शिनः ॥ ४-३४

यज्ज्ञात्वा न पुनर्मोहमेवं यास्यसि पांडव । १७

येन भूतान्यशेषेण द्रक्ष्यस्यात्मन्यथो मयि ॥ ४-३५

ते बेळी आपणपेया सहिते । इयें अशेषेही भूतें ।

माझ्या स्वरूपीं अखडितें । देखसी तूं ॥

ऐसें ज्ञानप्रकाशें पाहेल । तें मोहांधकार जाईल ।

जै गुरुकृपा होईल । पार्या गा ॥

Respectful Homage, reverent questioning, devoted service are qualities essential to approach the seers of truth and thereafter they will be pleased to bless you with the insight into the realm of Providence. (34)

When you once realise this truth, you will never be overtaken by ignorance at all. And you will also realise that the entire kingdom of God is within you, as well as within me (35)

When you will realise the self, you have the vision of all these beings along with yourselves un-interrupted within me.

Your ignorance will vanish when you will have this light of knowledge, which is the direct result of the grace of the Master. (Ovi)

यथोपासि समिद्धोऽग्निर्भस्मसात्कुस्तेऽजुनः ।

ज्ञानाग्निः सर्वकर्माणि भस्मसात्कुस्ते तथा ॥ ४-३७

न हि ज्ञानेन सदृशं पवित्रमिह विद्यते ।

तत्स्वयं योगसंसिद्धः कालेनात्मनि विदति ॥ ४-३८

थडावांस्तलमते ज्ञानं लक्ष्या ज्ञानं तत्परः संयतेंद्रियः ।

ज्ञानं लक्ष्या परां शान्तिमचिरेणाधिगच्छति ॥ ४-३९

Thereafter the Lord says, just as ordinary fire when kindled reduces all fuel to ashes, similarly the fire of knowledge brings to a termination all actions and finally dissolves them. (37)

There is nothing more sacred and purifying than knowledge in the world. And one who equips himself with the perfection of yoga as stated before, in course of time, attains this knowledge himself. (38)

One, who has devout faith, who controlleth his senses and who has dedicated himself to yoga attains knowledge or the fundamental truth, and thus gradually gains perfect peace of mind in course of time. (39)

अज्ञश्चाश्रद्धानश्च संशयात्मा विनश्यति ।
 नायं लोकोऽस्ति न परो न सुखं संशयात्मनः ॥ ४-४०
 योगसंन्यस्तकर्माणि ज्ञानसंछिन्नसंशयम् ।
 आत्मवन्त न कर्माणि निबध्नन्ति धनंजय ॥ ४-४१
 तस्मादज्ञानसंभूतं हृत्स्थ ज्ञानासिनाऽऽत्मनः ।
 छित्त्वेनं संशयं योगमातिष्ठोतिष्ठ भारत ॥ ४-४२

An ignorant faithless creature possessed with the Devil of suspicion, perishes in the end.

And such a person possessed with the Devil of suspicion attains neither this world nor the next nor finds happiness anywhere. (40)

Yoga here means the realisation of the self. The actions automatically come to an end.

Being engrossed in yōga, whose actions have come to an end and who is free from doubts due to the manifestation of the Soul and who is engrossed within himself, such a person is automatically free from the Bondage of the fruits of his actions. (41)

Hence with the sword of knowledge, do you cut in twain this doubt, the offspring or the result of Ignorance and rise up with full concentration on this yoga i.e. union with Brahman or Self-realisation.

Here ends the Fourth Chapter.



CHAPTER V.

पंचमी गन्धर्वाले योगतत्त्व The Principles of yoga are given in Chapter V.

The Lord had advocated the utility of the Path of Action and simultaneously had expounded and eulogised the principles of the Path of Wisdom.

Devout discharge of duties alone is the outcome of the former, and perfect renunciation of all activity in general is the result of the latter. And Arjuna was confounded on the whole regarding the selection of either of them. He therefore turns up his eyes to the Lord and says —

* Perfect renunciation of all actions, and again devout pursuit of the same, are advised by you. Kindly state which of the two should be preferred as a result of your mature consideration.

The Lord says —

** Perfect renunciation as well as dutiful pursuit of actions both tend towards, or are meant for the ulterior welfare of human beings. However the latter is to be preferred to the former.

*** He is a man of perpetual renunciation, who is above hatred or attachment towards the actions, and being unaffected by the opposites (like pleasure and pain etc.) easily escapes the bondage of births and deaths.

**** The ignorant only talk of SANKHYA and YOGA as two different paths. However dutiful adherence to either of them yields the fruit of both.

* सन्यासं कर्मणा कृणु पुनर्योगं च शससि ।

यच्छेय एतयोरेक तन्मे ब्रूहि सुनिश्चितम् ॥ ५-१

** सन्यासः कर्मयोगश्च नि श्रेयसकरावुभौ ।

तयोस्तु कर्मसन्यासात्कर्मयोगो विशिष्यते ॥ ५-२

*** ज्ञेयः स नित्यसन्यासी यो न द्वेष्टि न काङ्क्षति ।

निर्द्वन्द्वो हि महाबाहो सुखं बध्नात्प्रमुच्यते ॥ ५-३

**** मास्ययोगौ पृथग्बोलाः प्रवदन्ति न पण्डिताः

एकमप्यास्थितः सम्यग्भयोर्विन्दते फलम् ॥ ५-४

§ One who feels not sorry for any loss, nor becomes anxious if he fails to secure any desired object and at the same time has forgotten all attachments for his self (egoism) as well as any thing attached to the self, is a person with perfect renunciation

§§ Such a person need not give up his home, wife and children because renunciation has become his very nature itself When fire is extinguished leaving ashes alone behind, the ashes then could be easily picked up even with a piece of cotton.

§§§ Similarly a person is not caught in the trap of the actions he performs, when his mind and intellect are free from any ideas and imaginations whatsoever. Renunciation is possible when ideas and imaginations vanish from the mind and intellect, and therefore the Path of action and the Path of knowle-

dge go together hand in hand. It is the ignorant persons who call these two paths to be different from one another. Otherwise, have different lamps any different lights to shed ?

तरी गेलियाचो स करी । न पवतां चाड न घरी ।

जो सुनिश्चळ अतरी । मेह जैसा ॥ १९

आणि मी माझे ऐसी आठवण । विसरले जयाचे अंतःकरण ।

पार्थी तो संन्यासी जाण । निरंतर ॥ २०

आतां गृहादिक आघवे । तें काही नलगे त्यजावें ।

जें घेते जाहले स्वभावे । निःसंगु म्हणीनि ॥ २२

देख अग्नि विज्ञोनि जाये । मग जे राखोंडी केवळ होये ।

तें ते कापुसे गिवसूये । जियापरी ॥ २३

तैसा असतेनि उपाधि । नाकळिजे कर्मबंधी ।

जयाचिये बुद्धी । संकल्पु नाही ॥ २४

म्हणीनि कल्पना जें सांडे । तेंचि गा संन्यासु घडे ।

इयें कारणे दोनी सांगडे । संन्यासयोगु ॥ २५

सहजें ते अज्ञान । म्हणीनि म्हणती ते भिन्न ।

एहवी दीपाप्रति काई आनान । प्रकाशु आहाती ? ॥ २७

यत्साख्यं प्राप्यते स्थान तद्योगैरपि गम्यते ।

एकं साख्यं च योगं च यः पश्यति स पश्यति ॥ ५-५

The same goal is attained by SANKHYAS as well as by the yogins. He is the genuine seer who looks upon SANKHYA as YOGA in another form.

संन्यासस्तु महाबाहो दुःखमाप्नुमयोगतः ।

योगयुक्तो मुनिर्ब्रह्म न चिरेणाधिगच्छति ॥ ५-६

On the other hand renunciation is difficult to attain without recourse to yoga. Whereas one adept in yoga finds ultimate beatification or Brahman without any longer delay.

word युक्त means and includes योगयुक्त which is the same as realising the Self and verily this is the condition precedent to have further knowledge in all the aspects about God, which is the same as तत्त्वतः ज्ञानम्. Thus the verses proper are translated as under:—

A योगयुक्त i. e. a man of realisation and तत्त्वविद् i. e. knowing God in all the aspects, confidently feels that he is not the Author of the actions done by the Human Frame, wherein he has chosen to reside for the time being, as it were in a rented house.

All the actions like seeing, hearing, etc are done by the human Frame which he inhabits for the time being and that his senses are doing their work with respect to the sense objects, with which he is not concerned at all and that he is aloof from them.

ब्रह्मण्याद्याय कर्माणि सग त्यक्त्वा करोति यः ।
लिप्यते न स पापेन पद्मपत्रमिवाम्भगा ॥ ५-१०

One, who resigns all his actions to Brahman, who remains perfectly unattached and discharges the duties devolving upon him, is not contaminated by the acts done by him as a lotus leaf does not become wet with the surrounding water.

आत्मा अधिष्ठानमगती । अतोपाही इन्द्रियवृत्ती ।
आयुक्तालिया अर्थी । बतंन आहाती ॥ ४८
दीपावेनि प्रकाशे । गृहीते व्यापार धीने ।
देही कर्म जात तंते । योगयुक्ता ॥ ४९

तो कर्म करो सबलें । परी कर्मबधा नाकळे ।

जैसे न सिपे जळी जळे । पद्यपत्र ॥ ५० ॥

When he attains the state as noted above, his senses as they are residing in the same body-cover or human-frame, perform their functions with the help of the sense-objects and still he remains quite unconcerned with their activities. One, who has realised the self, allows his body-cover to discharge its functions, himself playing the role of a lamp in the light of which all the activities of the home are carried on by the inhabitants. He discharges his duties and yet remains unconcerned with them like a lotus leaf untouched by the surrounding water.

कार्येन मनसा बुद्ध्या केवलैरिन्द्रियैरपि ।

वागिनि कर्म कुर्वन्ति सङ्ग त्यक्त्वाऽऽत्मशुद्धये ॥ ५-११ ॥

The yogins, i. e. those that aspire after the realisation of their own-self, remain unattached and do discharge their duties, be it with their body cover, or mind or intellect or the senses alone for the sake of self purification.

Note :-

A yogin here means a seeker after truth. The Author in this verse analyses the composite Human Frame in all its separate parts, viz. the body cover with the limbs, the mind, the intellect, the gross senses and the minute or subtle senses. And the training of yoga consists in the working of each of the

different parts, as isolated from all others, so that the different parts are accustomed to act singly or in combination as per command of the seeker.

This practice can be compared to the parade in the military camp. The soldiers have to obey the command of the Captain and act as per letter of the command. Similarly the seeker, to get thorough control over the human machine at his disposal, orders the different parts to play their role singly or in combination to his entire satisfaction. He can thus make use of any one of them or of any combination therefrom according to his sweet choice, or in short it is a free dance on blades of razors.

The great conqueror of world fame, Emperor Napoleon used to say that he always worked in compartments. He was continuously on horse-back day and night for six days during the battle of Austerlitz which he won; and thereafter slept for seventy two hours in a closed compartment.

The yogin or seeker after truth has to undergo this type of training to achieve his end and virtually he can be compared to a circus actor dancing freely on a steel-rope and maintaining easy and perfect balance, without the slightest risk of a fall.

During the regime of Lord Curzon, as the Governor-General of India, Lord Kitchnair, the Commander in-Chief of India, happened to visit

Poona The next morning he went to the Parade ground for inspection :

After the function was over, he expressed his desire to have a brisk morning ride The Commandant immediately ordered a steed for the guest of honour and requested him to mount the same

The steed fought shy of the stranger and suddenly galloped away Lord Kitchnair pursued the animal fast for half a mile and catching hold of it had a brisk ride with vengeance for over an hour until the steed began to gasp and then left it to the stable

Lord Kitchnair was too exalted an officer to condescend to order the arrest of the animal

A yogin has to exert likewise to gain control over the senses

हृत्प्याचि गाष्टी । माहानि गकारो ।

सायही धरावा । बिटोयाची ॥ तुकाराम

Obstinacy 'of the senses' has to be conquered and must be followed by unconditional surrender to providence

" Invention is exhausted, Reason is fatigued, obstinacy is not yet conquered " Sir Edmund Burke

Thus unconditional surrender to providence is the royal road to conquer the obstinacy of the senses

A yōgin has to exert in the same way to achieve control over his senses.

Strict discipline also is equally necessary for a yogin. Here we can cite the example of the British and Indian armies with respect to strict discipline.

Bajirao II, the last of the Peshwas, happened to meet a British Commandant and during the course of conversation Bajirao casually asked the British Officer as to how the British troops even smaller in numbers, could achieve success over the Maratha forces. The British Officer kept quiet and simply requested Bajirao to watch the parade of both the troops by the sea-side one day.

Accordingly both the troops were taken to the sea-side and were kept under their respective heads. The tides were retiring and both the troops were commanded to march up to the water level and were ordered to stand still on their respective grounds. A little later the tides began to rise and flow towards the sea-shore. Gradually the water level began to rise and the troops stood in knee-deep water. The water level began to rise more and more and the Maratha infantry, without the orders of the officer in charge began to retreat of its own accord and dispersed quickly.

The British troops still awaited the orders of the Commander, to withdraw, even though the water

rose up to the waist-level and began to retreat only on receipt of the orders. Thus the British Commander showed by example that the success of the British troops depended upon the discipline they observed.

Similarly a yogin has to observe strict discipline in the practice of yoga to achieve the desired end.

The saint lays emphasis at this stage on the requisite qualifications for a person who listens or rather who has right to listen to this part of the conversation of the story.

एय इद्रियाचा पांगु । जया फिटला आहे चांगु ।
तयासोचि आवि लागु । परिसावया ॥ ६५

Those alone are immensely qualified to listen to this tale, who have thoroughly nipped in the bud the very latent and inherent cravings of their senses.

The Lord now explains the characteristics of the person who has attained self realisation.

युक्तः कर्मफलं त्यक्त्वा शान्तिमाप्नोति नैष्ठिकीम् ।

अयुक्तः कामकारेण फले सक्तो निबध्यते ॥ ५-१२

One who has realised the self despises the fruits of his actions and enjoys blissful peace, which is eternal, whereas a worldly man hankering after the fruits of his actions with intense affection is caught in the snare of births and deaths.

One, who has his senses under control, lives in perfect happiness and residing as he does for the time being in this Human Frame of nine outlets remains completely unconcerned with acts done either by himself or through others.

जैता फळाचिये हावे । तैसे कर्म करी बाधवे ।
मग न कीजेचि येणे भावे । उपेक्षी जा ॥ ७३
तो ज्याकडे वामु पाहे । तेउती मुखानी सृष्टि होये ।
तो म्हणे तेथ राहे । महाबोध ॥ ७४
नयद्वारे देही । तो असतुचि परि नाही ।
करितुचि न करी काही । फलत्यागी ॥ ७५

The person following the path of action discharges his functions as if he were intently absorbed in his acts like an ordinary person setting his eye keenly on the fruits thereof; and suddenly becomes apathetic as though he was not their author at all. Wherever he casts his glance, he finds happiness personified in front of him. And the vision of God stands before him wherever he wills it. He dwells in the human frame with nine outlets no doubt and yet remains absent therefrom. Similarly he discharges his duties and still feels that he is not their author at all because he despises the fruits accruing therefrom.

न वर्तुष्व न कर्माणि लोकाय गुरति वामुः ।
न ब्रह्मकर्मयोगं स्वभावस्तु प्रवर्तते ॥ १४

The Lord ever remains aloof from all-actions as well as from their Authorship in the case of Human beings. Nor does he care to see if the actions bear any fruit. Because it is all the doing or creation of Nature working automatically.

जगच्या जीवी आहे । परी कवणाचा कहीं नोहे ।
जगचि हें होय जाये । तो शुद्धीहि नेणे ॥७९॥

(God) He is the very life force of the Universe and yet remains perfectly detached therefrom and is not conscious at all as to whether the Universe is evolved from or dissolved in the Absolute substratum called the Brahman.

नाऽऽदत्ते कस्यचित्पापं न चैव सुकृतं विभुः ।
अज्ञानेनाऽऽवृतं ज्ञान तेन मुह्यन्ति जन्तवः ॥ ५-१५ ॥

The Lord is unconcerned with the good acts done or sins committed by the beings. Ignorance envelops the intellect and knowledge of beings and the creation plunges in delusion or bewilderment.

पापपुण्ये अगण्ये । पासीचि अवतु न देखें ।
आणि तासीही होऊं न ठके । येरी गोठी कायसी ? ॥ ५-८० ॥
वै मूर्तबिनि मेळें । तो मूर्तचि होऊनि खेळे ।
परि अमूर्तपण न मेळे । दादुलयाचें ॥ ५-८१ ॥
तो गुन्नी पाडी तंहारी । ऐसे योजती जे घराचरी ।
तें अज्ञान गा अवघारी । पंडुरामरा ॥ ५-८२ ॥

Even in the midst of merits and demerits he does not pay heed to them; nor has the inclination to stand even as a witness for them; Leave apart any other gesture on his part. Assuming the Human form, he plays the role like ordinary mortals and yet maintains the aloofness of his omnipresence. It is sheer ignorance on the part of the people that they designate him as the creator, protector and destroyer.

ज्ञानेन तु तदज्ञानं येषां नाशितमात्मनः ।

तेषामादित्यवज्ज्ञानं प्रकाशयति तत्परम् ॥ ५-१६

In the case of persons, whose veil of ignorance is evaporated by the emergence of self knowledge, or self-manifestation, their self knowledge itself illuminates the Infinite Absolute as it were like the light of the Sun. The saint, while commenting on verse No. II viz.

॥ कायेन मनसा बुद्ध्या केवलैरिन्द्रियैरपि ।

योगिनः कर्म कुर्वन्ति सङ्गं त्यक्त्वाऽऽत्मशुद्धये ॥ ५-११

in ovi No. 70 states as follows—

मम श्रीकृष्ण मूढो पापति । आता प्राप्ताचे चिन्ह पुरते ।

सागेन तुजं निरुते । चित्त देई ॥ ७०

The Lord says to Arjuna—please listen, I describe to you the exact natural characteristics of an adept in yoga or a genuine transcendental personality. And having mentioned their several aspects in the foregoing five or six verses, now finally summarises the three states of God realisation, God-intoxication and

God-immersion in the following three verses Nos 17, 18 and 19.

तद्बुद्धयस्तदात्मानस्तन्निष्ठास्तत्परायणाः ।

गच्छन्त्यपुनरावृत्तिः ज्ञाननिर्धूतकल्मषाः ॥ ५-१७

तत् means परब्रह्म-सत् त्वमसि God realisation

This is श्रुतिवाक्य; The use of तत् is for four times in this verse. With the intellect riveted on the Brahman, devotion dedicated to Brahman and intent upon Brahman as the final goal or focussing upon Brahman as the final goal and with their sins thus washed off by the torrent of knowledge, the seers reach a stage from which there is no return to life again.

This is God-realisation.

विद्याविनयसंपन्ने ब्राह्मणे गवि हस्तिनि ।

शूनि चैव द्रवपाके च पण्डिता समदर्शिनः ॥ ५-१८

सम तु ब्रह्म इति श्रीशंकराचार्या.

Be it a Brahmin endowed with learning and humility, a cow, an elephant, a dog or its flesh eater; A Pandit i. e. a Sage or a Seer, virtually sees his own image on all of them i. e. the image of what he has realised which amounts to God-Intoxication अहं ब्रह्मास्मि. He is surrounded by God which means God-intoxication. Shrimat Shankaracharya in his योग तारावली paints the picture of a person who has realised the self as under:-

ब्रह्मात्मने परमात्ममानो ।

मत्परमविद्या तिमिरे समरते ॥

अहो बुधा निर्मलदृष्टयेऽपि ।

किञ्चिन्न पश्यन्ति जगत् समग्रम् ॥

When the Sun of realisation shines with refulgence before the eyes of the seers or yogins, and when the veil of ignorance is thus evaporated, the seers or sages, even with their vision thus cleared up are not able to see anything from the entire world standing before them.

विद्याविनयसन्ने A Brahmin, a cow, an elephant, etc. are taken as mere token objects from the entire world i. e. the yogin is surrounded by the vision of God, which amounts to God-intoxication.

To quote another example or experience of the writer himself, it runs as under :-

It may be the year 1917 or 1918 and during the Divali Holidays, Mr Gokhle had gone to the Inchgeri math. Shri Amburao Maharaj was staying alone in the math at that time. One night after Bhajan, Shri Amburao Maharaj went out in the open space for evacuation as usual. Mr. Gokhale had accompanied him with a Dietz lantern of those times. Amburao Maharaj even after he had finished, sat quietly gazing at the stools for a while. A little later, Mr Gokhale asked him as to why he had lingered there, forgetting to come back soon. The reply came that the Maharaj was deeply absorbed in staring at the vision of the Lord and never knew what lay behind it.

In fact as Shri. Shankaracharya says समं तु ब्रह्म it is always ब्रह्म that surrounds a sage and he never knows what lies behind the vision of ब्रह्म. And this is समदर्शन in the case of saints who have achieved their goal.

God or Brahman is infinite and Amburao Maharaj once happened to say "who can define or confine the infinite." Therefore विद्याविनयसंपन्ने etc. is the experience of the saints. अहं ब्रह्मास्मि is a reality and matter of experience and not of mere words or understanding as an intellectual pursuit.

इहैव तैजितः सर्गो येषां साम्ये स्थितं मनः ।

निर्दोषं हि समं ब्रह्म तस्माद् ब्रह्मणि ते स्थिता ॥ ५।१९

They are really the conquerors or rulers of creation whose mind is riveted on the Brahman or समम्. It is only the infinite Brahman that is unalloyed and they therefore remain immersed in Brahman सर्वं सत्त्वं इदं ब्रह्म which is the final stage of God realisation.

The verse तत्तुदयः etc No. 17 is God realisation तत्त्वमसि । The verse विद्याविनयसंपन्ने etc No. 18 is अहंब्रह्मास्मि । He is surrounded by God God intoxication

The verse इहैव तैजितः सर्गो etc No. 19 is सर्वं सत्त्वं इदं ब्रह्म He is immersed in God. The message of the celestial song is thus summarised in a nut shell in these 3 verses of the fifth chapter. The saint says पञ्चमी गच्छति यो गच्छति and this is the योगतत्त्व explained in the 3 above verses

न प्रहृष्येत्प्रिय प्राप्य नोद्विजेत्प्राप्य चाप्रियम् ।

स्थिरबुद्धिरसमूढो ब्रह्मविद् ब्रह्मणि स्थित ॥ ५।२०

He does not rejoice in the achievement of the desired object, nor feels dejected when he fails to secure the same. He is never confounded and remains ever steady with the peace of mind undisturbed. Such a person ever remains immersed in Brahman.

Mark the locative case

बाह्यस्पर्शेष्वसक्ततात्मा विन्दत्यात्मनि यत्सुखम् ।

स ब्रह्मयोगयुक्तात्मा सुखमक्षय्यमश्नुते ॥ ५।२१

With the complete detachment from sense objects, he obtains the bliss proceeding from the realisation of his own self and thus immersed in Brahman, he relishes and enjoys perpetual bliss.

Note: — The man of realisation not only enjoys but relishes eternal bliss. The verb अश्नुते is used to indicate that the yogin eats or relishes the pleasure of eternal bliss.

श्रीमत् शंकराचार्य in his योगतारावली says —

उन्मापिताधारदृताशनोर्लोकं ।

आबुञ्चने दास्यदशनवामो ।

सतापितान् चन्द्रमसः पतन्ति म् ।

योग्यधारां पिबतीह घन्य ॥

Blessed is he, says Shri Shankaracharya, who drinks the nectar flowing drop by drop from the SAHASRARA plexus in the Brain when this plexus gets

excited by the incessant or constant shocks received from below due to the agitation and peristaltic action of the Anus, while the yogin is absorbed in meditation as seated in a posture wherein the vertebral column including the Thorax, neck and head are in a perpendicular line.

य एष स्तन इवावलम्बते । सेदयोगिनिः ।

यत्रासीकेशान्तो विवर्तते । व्यपोत्यशीर्षकपाले ॥

In the Upanishad, it is stated that behind the uvula is a very narrow and hair-like passage connected with the brain, through which drops of nectar proceeding from the SAHASRARA plexus in the brain drizzle upon the tongue. And the yogin tastes, relishes, eats or drinks these drops of Nectar flowing from the SAHASRARA plexus located in the brain.

नामामृत गोडी बँलवा लाधली । योगिया साधली जीवनकळा ।

By the force of intense devotion, a devotee also attains the same state which a yogin achieves from his concentrated meditation as described above in the योगतारावली and he is also blessed with the current of Nectar trickling on his tongue from the brain when he is deeply absorbed in his trance.

ये हि तत्परांजा भोगा दुःखयोग्य एव ते ।

आद्यन्तवन्तः कीन्तेय न तेषु रमते बुधः ॥ ५-२२

The pleasures accruing from sense-objects always result in disappointment from the beginning to the end. And a wise man despises them all. ...

॥ १ ॥ शक्नोतीहैव य सोढुं प्राक्शरीरविमोक्षणात् ।
 वामक्रोधोद्भव वेग स युक्त स सुखी नर ॥ ५-२३

Even while continuing to reside in the Human Frame, he who can control the excitement arising from passion and vehemence is a yogin of sterling qualities and is really happy.

योऽन्तः सुखोऽन्तरारामस्तथान्तर्जोतिरेव य ।
 स यागो ब्रह्मनिर्वाण ब्रह्मभूतोऽधिगच्छति ॥ ५-२४

He who is eternal bliss, and solace in himself and who is self-luminous and refulgent spontaneously beoomes identified with Brahman and ultimately dives deep in Brahman and beoomes Brahman himself.

लभन्ते ब्रह्मनिर्वाणमृपय क्षीणकल्मषा ।
 छिन्नद्वेषा यतात्मानः सर्वभूतहिते रता ॥ ५-२५

The sages whose sins have been washed away, dissolve themselves in Brahman as they have with their own exertions wiped out all feelings of seperateness and find solace in the happiness of all beings in the creation or in making them happy

वामक्रोधवियुक्तानां यतीनां यतचेतसाम् ।
 अभितो ब्रह्मनिर्वाण वर्तन्ते विदितात्मनाम् ॥ ५-२६

The sages who are masters of their mind and who have subdued their passions and wrath and who have realised their own self, ever remain surrounded by Brahman on all sides or in other words plunged

or drowned in Brahman or in tune with the Infinite Absolute called the Brahman.

स्पृशान्कृत्वा बहिर्वाह्याश्चक्षुर्धैवान्तरे भूवोः ।

प्राणायानी समी कृत्वा नासाभ्यन्तरवारिणी ॥ ५-२७

यतेन्द्रियमनोबुद्धिर्मुनिर्मोक्षपरायणः ।

विगतैश्छामयक्रोधो यः सदा मुक्त एव सः ॥ ५-२८

So far the characteristic features of a yogin have been described and now in these two verses the actual practice of yoga is summarised in a nut shell like the trailer in a Cinéma Film, sketching in brief the story of the film to follow.

The practice of yoga is summarised as under;-

- (1) The sense objects are kept aloof from the senses.
- (2) The gaze is fixed betwixt the eye brows.
- (3) Breathing in and out are Confined exclusively to the Cavity of the nostrils
- (4) The senses, the mind, the intellect are all subdued.
- (5) There is perfect concentration on the goal of liberation meaning escaping from the cycle of births and deaths.
- (6) Complete subjugation or extinction of all feelings, passion, wrath or fear.

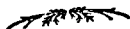
He who possesses all these six attributes is free from all bondage of births and deaths.

भोक्तारं यज्ञतपसा सर्वलोभमहेश्वरम् ।
सुहृद सर्वभूतानां ज्ञात्वा मां शान्तिमृच्छति ॥ २९

He alone, who realises me to be the receiver of all sacrifices and penances, who looks on me as the Almighty Lord of all the worlds and the benefactor of all the beings in the world, automatically obtains peace of mind

Here ends the 5th chapter Arjun is enamoured of the description of the yogin attaining the characteristic features of the स्थितप्रज्ञ which enable him to escape from the cycle of births and deaths and the short account of the path to be followed for the attainment of the same.

He, therefore, insists on the Master to give a detailed account of the path to be followed so that it would be easy for him to practise the same And hence comes the 6th chapter as a sequence wherein full instructions are given for the seeker after truth to follow the path in right earnest



CHAPTER VI

According to Saint Dnyaneshwar the V... Chapter deals with the practice of Yoga necessary for the attainment of self realisation. The sixth chapter dilates upon the same practice of Yoga in a systematic manner detailing the various postures necessary for the attainment of self realisation, which means and implies the identity of the Individual Soul with the Universal Soul. Simultaneously the condition of those that fail to achieve their end in the existing life has been discussed in detail with the final assurance that they are bound to reach the goal in their next birth.

The Soul is caught in the trap of the Human frame and lies embedded deep inside under heavy load of ideas and imaginations accumulated over a series of births and deaths, and an uphill effort has to be made to remove the load and secure the freedom of the Soul from the bondage of the consciousness of self and everything attached to the Self.

And Chapter VI is intended for the deliverance of such fettered Souls.

The conversation between the Lord Shri Krishna and Arjuna was being communicated by Sanjaya to

Dhritarashtra and the Saint is describing the way in which it was being reported

तेजो आनदाचेनि धालेपणे । साभिप्राय अत करणे ॥
 आता आदरेसी घालणे । घडले त्या ॥
 तो गीतेमाजी पट्टीचा । प्रसंग असे आयणीचा ॥
 जेसा क्षीरार्णवी अमृताचा । निवाडु जाहला ॥
 तैसे गीतार्थाचे सार । जे धिवेक सिधूचे पार ॥
 नाना योगविभव भाण्डार । उघडले वा ॥
 जे आदि प्रवृत्तीचे विसवणे । जे शब्द ब्रह्मामि न धोलणे ॥
 जेयूनि गीतावल्लीचे ठाणे । प्ररोहो पावे ॥
 तो अध्यावां सहावा । वरि साहित्याचिया बरवा ॥
 रुगिजेल म्हणोनि परिसावा । चित्त देउनी ॥

The Saint says " Sanjaya will hereafter report the conversation to Dhritarashtra, with extreme reverence and in significant expressions as he was thrilling with joy. The subject matter of the conversation will be the sixth chapter which is the crux or cream of the celestial song, just as Nectar was the outcome of the churning of the ocean of milk "

This chapter is the essence of the Song, which expresses the very heart of Philosophy and opens up the rich treasure of the grandeur of Yoga. Herein lies the resting place of the Primeval Prakriti or Maya, the source of creation, and regarding the description of this resting place, the Vedas keep

silence and which is the origin or seed of the creeper in the form of the celestial song.

That this chapter No. 6 of the celestial song is of such importance, will be explained hereafter in beautiful and sweet expressions and therefore should be listened to, with close attention.

The Lord says :

अनाश्रितः कर्मफलं कार्यं कर्म करोति यः ।

स संन्यासी च योगी च न निरग्निर्नचाक्रियः ॥१॥

He who discharges his duties, as occasion demands and despises the fruits thereof, is the real man of renunciation and a genuine person following the path of action, and not one who avoids his duties and gives up the worship of the sacred fire as ordained by the scriptures

गृहस्थाभ्यमात्रे वाञ्छे । कपाटो आधीनि आहे सहजे ।

की तेचि संन्यासे वाढविजे । सरिसं पुढती ॥ ५०

म्हणानि अग्निसेवा न साडिता । कर्माची रेखा नोलाडिता ॥

आहे योगमुख स्वभावता । आपणपात्रि ॥ ५१

A human being, since his birth carries his natural burden of a householder Why should he then try to exchange the same for renunciation ?

He need not abjure the duties demanded by the occasion and also likewise give up the worship of the sacrificial fire as ordained by the scriptures. His actions themselves are the path leading to the same happiness, which otherwise accrues from the practice of Yoga.

य सन्यासमिति प्राहुर्योग त विद्धि पांडव ।
न ह्यसन्यस्तसवल्पो योगी भवति वदन् ॥ २

The path of wisdom, which connotes renunciation is the same as the Path of Action Because unless a person renounces all ideas and imaginations, he cannot aspire to be a follower of the Path of Action

आरुक्षोर्मुनेर्योग कर्म कारणमुच्यते ।
यागारुद्धस्य तस्यैव शम वारणमुच्यते ॥ ३

Action i e following the Path of Action is the means to ascend the ladder of Yoga i e the attainment of final beatification and when he has achieved the ascent, perfect peace of mind is the result of the attainment

यदा हि नेन्द्रियार्थेषु न कर्मस्वनुपज्जत ।
मर्वंसकल्पमन्यासी योगारुद्धस्तदाच्यत ॥ ४

When a person despises the sense-objects and in the midst of his discharge of duties remains unaffected by the enjoyment thereof and is free from all ideas and imaginations, he is looked upon as one who has attained perfect Yoga

उद्धरेदात्मनाऽऽत्मानं नात्मानमवसादयेत् ।
आत्मैव ह्यात्मना बन्धुरात्मन रिपुरात्मन ॥ ५

You are yourselves responsible for your own uplift and therefore, you should not stoop to lower yourselves You are your own benefactor and likewise you are your own enemy.

बन्धुरात्माऽऽत्मनस्तस्य येनात्मैवात्मना जितः ।

अनात्मनस्तु शत्रुत्वे वर्तेतात्मैव शत्रुवत् ॥ ६

The Self of the person is his own benefactor in the case of one who is master of his own self. On the contrary, or contrarywise, the Self itself becomes his enemy who lets loose his own self.

जितात्मनः प्रशान्तस्य परमात्मा समाहितः ।

शीतोष्णमुखदुःखेषु तथा मानापमानयोः ॥ ७

ज्ञानविज्ञानतृप्तात्मा कूटस्थो विजितेन्द्रियः ।

मुक्त इत्युच्यते योगी ममलोप्टादमकाचनः ८

The vision of the Almighty is not distant from him or stands in front of him who controls himself and enjoys perfect peace of mind in the midst of all types of opposites like heat and cold, pleasure or pain or honour or dishonour. Thoroughly satisfied or quite content with the vision of the Lord and the broad outlook on the Universe as well as the all pervading knowledge of the Infinite Brahman, who could instantly retire within himself and has his senses under control, is styled as the Ukta Yogi (a person with the vision of the Lord as well as the Broad outlook on the Universe and the all pervading knowledge of the Infinite Brahman.) And it is such a person alone who makes no difference between a lump of mud and a piece of gold

मुह्यन्मित्रार्मुदामोक्षमध्यम्येष्ट्यकमुपु ।

माधुष्यनि च पातेषु ममकृद्विशिष्यते ॥ ९

To quote Shakespeare, Brutus says, "Set, honour is one eye and death in another and I look on them both indifferently."

May he be a benefactor, a friend, a foe, a person of indifferent attitude, an exponent of neutrality, a hated person, a helpmate, a saint or a sinner, he who maintains the same attitude towards all these types of persons, excels all others in comparison.

जे ते विम्वालकाराचे विसुरे । जरी आहाती आनाने आकारे ।
 तरी घडले एकचि भागारे । परब्रह्मो ॥
 ऐसे जाणणे जें बरे । ते पावले त्या आचरे ।
 म्हणोनि आहाचवाहाचे न झकवे येणे आकार चिरे ॥
 जयाचे नाव तीर्थरावो । दर्शने प्रमस्तोसी ठावो ॥
 जयाचेनि संगे ब्रह्मभावो । भ्रान्तासही ॥
 विषाये जरी आठवला चिना । तरी दे आपुली योग्यता ।
 हे असो त्याते प्रमिता । लाभ आयी ॥

The ornaments or manifestations in the form of the expanse of the Universe appear to assume different shapes and forms and still they are made up of the same stuff of gold in the form of the Brahman

He, who has this instinctive or intuitive insight, is not therefore led away by the external appearance of these shapes and forms

He is the embodiment of the sacred waters. His very personality invites reverence And his

contact bestows the highest realisation of the Self even on the benighted Soul buried in ignorance.

If one is casually put in mind of such a personality, he achieves the same height of realisation. And to add to this all, even the singing of his glory leads on to the fortune of the singer.

योगी युञ्जीत सततमात्मानं रहसि स्थितः ।
 एककी यत्चित्तात्मा निराशीरपरिग्रहः ॥ १०
 पुत्रती अस्तवेना ऐसें । जया पाहलें अद्वैतदिवसें ॥
 मग आपणपाचि आपणु असे । अखंडीत ॥
 ऐसिया दृष्टी जो विवेकी । पार्या तो एककी ।
 सहजें अपरिग्रही जे तिही लोकी । तोचि म्हणोन ॥
 ऐसिये असाधारणें । निष्पन्नाची लक्षणें ।
 आपुलेनि बहुवत्सपणे । श्रीकृष्ण बोले ॥

Yogi means the person who has realised the Self. Such a person should continually remain absorbed in his contemplation all alone with his mind under control, without any expectations and divested of all attachments. When a person is blessed with the perpetual vision of the Sun of Realisation he remains thoroughly absorbed within himself and for all time

He who has realised this aspect, remains automatically unattached since he feels it is he who has pervaded the three worlds. In this way the Lord ShriKrishna extolled the characteristics of the perfect beings and in such a manner that they appeared to

excel Lord ShriKrishna himself with respect to those qualities.

At these words Arjuna says to the Lord :

Oh, my Lord, I am sorry, I fail to possess such characteristics personally. Yet I assure you, " Says Arjuna further " if you are pleased to devote personal attention to me, I shall positively acquire such qualities, by practising penance of whatever sort and howsoever difficult it may be. The Lord listened to these words of Arjuna very attentively and was eager to bless him with the vision of the Lord as solicited by Arjuna. The only consideration with the Lord was regarding whether the disciple was ripe with the necessary preliminary qualifications viz. mature renunciation with respect to the feelings of the heart as well as the ideas and imaginations of the Head for the blessing of the vision of the Lord.

With these preliminary considerations, the Lord explains to Arjuna, the principles of the Right Royal Road to the Gateway of Providence.

हे असो कथा सांगे वेगी । मग अर्जुन म्हणे सलगो ॥
 देवा, इये सत चिन्हे आमी न ठकती माझ्या ॥ १३९
 जो तुम्ही चित्त देयाल । तरी ब्रह्म मिया होइजेल ॥
 बाई जाले अभ्यासिजेल । सांगाल जे ॥
 मग माझका जे पाडवे । म्हणिले म्या ब्रह्म होआवे ॥
 ते असोपही देवे । बवघारिले ॥
 तेथ ऐसेचि एक विचारिले । जे या ब्रह्मत्वाचे टोळ्ळे जाहजे ॥
 परी उदरा बंगम्य आहे आते । बुझीनिया ॥

ऐसे विवरोनिया श्रीहरी । म्हणितले तिये अवसरी ॥

अर्जुना हा अवधारी । पंथराजु ॥

शुची देशे प्रतिष्ठाप्य स्थिरमासनमात्मनः ।

नात्युच्छ्रित नातिनीचं चैलाजिनकुशोत्तरम् ॥११॥

तत्रैकाग्रं मनः कृत्वा यतचित्तेन्द्रियक्रियः ।

उपविश्यासने युञ्ज्याद्योगमात्मविशुद्धये ॥१२॥

सम कायसिरोग्रीव धारयन्नचलं स्थिरः ।

संप्रेक्ष्य नासिकाग्रं स्वं दिशश्चानवलोकयन् ॥१३॥

An aspirant should first of all select a sanctified place either a Math or a temple or a sanctuary for practising penance. He must arrange a very comfortable seat for himself which should be neither too low nor too high, just befitting himself to be seated for a considerable length of time without discomfort and where concentration on the name of the Lord will continue uninterrupted. The seat should preferably consist of the skin of a deer with Kusha grass spread evenly underneath with a newly washed white clean piece of cloth as a soft and smooth cover.

The aspirant should occupy such a seat from day to day and then practise Yoga for self purification, with his mind perfectly concentrated and his senses perfectly under control along with all the other ingredients of the Chitta.

The vertebral column with the Sacrum portion neck and head portion ought to remain in a perpendicular posture steady and without any movements.

The eyes should be focussed on the tip or top of the nose, without any deviation towards any or all the surrounding sides, or directions.

मगं तेथ आपण । एकाग्र अतःकरण ॥
 करुनि सद्गुरुस्मरण । अनुभविजे ॥
 जेथ स्मरतेनि आदरे । सबाह्य सात्विके भरे ।
 जव काठिण्य विरे । अहभावाचे ॥
 विषयाचा विसरू पडे । इन्द्रियाची कसमस मोडे ।
 मनाची घडीघडे । हृदयामाजी ॥
 ऐसे ऐक्य हे सहजे । फावे तंव राहिजे ।
 मग तेणेचि बोधे वैसिजे । आसनावरी ॥
 प्रवृत्ति माघीति मोहरे । समाधि ऐलाडि उत्तरे ।
 आधवे अभ्यासू सरे । वैसल खेवां ॥

N B : While commenting on verse No 12 Saint Dnyaneshwar classifies the disciples into two categories as under -

There are some who immediately after initiation by the master, are blessed with the sun of Realisation whereas there are others who have to persevere for the attainment of their desired goal. And that depends upon the intensity and veracity of their exertions coupled with faith.

The disciple, after initiation with feelings of extreme faith and reverence for the master, must realise the experience accruing for the blessings of the master.

"When the disciple, thus fully and feelingly remembers the name of the Lord as communicated to him by the master, he is overwhelmed with emotions of piety and tears of joy trickle down from his eyes, dissolving the egoism ruling over the mind of the devotee. The Devotee then forgets the sense-objects, forgets his senses which automatically lose their uneasiness and his mind lies drowned deep in the recesses of his heart. The Devotee thus experiences his unity with the Absolute. Filled with these emotions and enlightened with the light of knowledge he takes his seat on the Asana. When he forgets his imprisonment in the body-cover and experiences his oneness with the Universal Soul surrounding him.

In short, he enjoys the fruit of his perseverance and attains the extreme limits of the Yōga he is practising. In fact nothing remains to be achieved thereafter. Instances of such disciples are very few and far between like the Saint himself or the great Adya Shankaracharya and the like. However there are others who cannot get such experience all at once and they have to carry on their practice of meditation from day to day until at last they are able to reach the final destination. These are classed in the second category by the Saint. And majority of the Aspirants belong to this class.

It will not be out of place here, if a little digression is made to have an analysis of the Human

machine placed at the disposal of Human beings by Providence:

It is the Brahman, the absolute eternal, Infinite sub-stratum that pervades the whole Universe. The Brahman with the help of the Maya or Prakriti, had the desire, to become many in the form of the several manifestations or creations in general. These creations are both animate and inanimate.

Amongst the animate, on the top of them all come the Human beings, a highly evolved unit comprising in a nut shell all the forces in the Infinite Brahman in a miniature form. And hence it is, that, the Human being alone, is capable of establishing its identity with the Infinite Brahman, in the long run, by practising Yoga.

The composite human frame when analysed splits itself into the following several parts. We have the human frame with the limbs, the mind, the intellect and the inherent spirit not only merely controlling the entire frame but identifying itself due to egoism, with the machine itself.

This is perfect evolution of the Human being. And then begins the involution or the return journey leading ultimately to the isolation of the inherent spirit from the shackles of the composite frame and final immersion in the Infinite Brahman.

And the sixth chapter of the Celestial Song deals in a concise and precise form with the actual practice necessary for the attainment of the aforesaid liberation of the Inherent Spirit from the bondage of the cycle of births and deaths. And it may not be inconsistent if we call this Practice as the Raja Yoga of Patanjali as styled by Swami Vivekanand

Swamiji in his first steps narrates the story of a minister to illustrate the workings of the Raja Yoga in the Human machine. The story runs thus:-

There was once a minister to a great king. He fell into disgrace. The King, as a punishment ordered him to be shut up in the top of a very high tower. This was done and the minister was left there to perish. He had a faithful wife, however, who came to the tower at night and called to her husband at the top to know what she could do to help him. He told her to return to the tower the following night and bring with her a long rope, some stout twine, pack thread, silken thread, a beetle and a little honey. Wondering much, the good wife obeyed her husband and brought him the desired articles.

The husband directed her to attach the silken thread firmly to the beetle, then to smear its horns with a drop of honey and to set it free on the wall of the tower with its head pointing upwards. She

obeyed all these instructions and the beetle started on its long journey. Smelling the honey ahead, it slowly crept upwards in the hope of reaching the honey, until at last it reached the top of the tower, when the minister grasped the beetle and got possession of the silken thread. He told his wife to tie the other end to the pack-thread, he repeated the process with the stout twine and lastly with the rope. Then the rest was easy. The minister descended from the tower by means of the rope and made his escape.

In this human machine or the body of ours, the breath motion is the silken thread, by laying hold of and learning to control it, we grasp the pack-thread of the nerve currents and from there the stout twine of our thoughts and lastly the rope of Prana, controlling which we reach freedom.

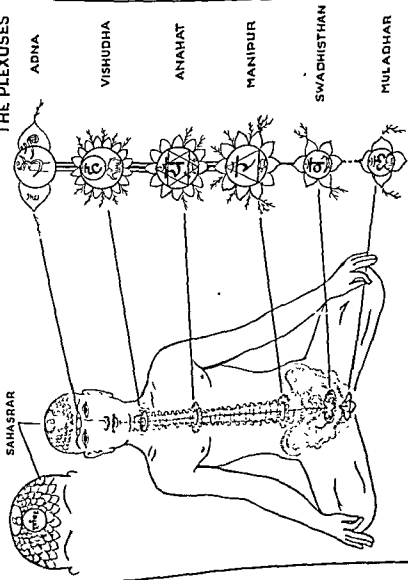
According to the Yogis, there are two nerve currents in the spinal column called the Pingala and the Ida and a hollow canal called the Sushumna running through the spinal cord. At the lower end of the hollow spinal canal is what the Yogis call the lotus of the Kundalini. They describe it as triangular in form, in which, in the symbolical language of the Yogis, there is a power called the Kundalini coiled up.

When that Kundalini awakes, it tries to force a passage through this hollow canal and as it rises

step by step, as it were, layer after layer of the mind becomes open and all the different visions and wonderful powers come to the Yogi. When it reaches the brain, the Yogi is perfectly detached from the body and the mind. The Soul finds itself free.

The Yogi alone has the Sushumna open. When this Sushumna current opens, and begins to rise, we get beyond the senses, our mind becomes supersensuous, superconscious. We get beyond even the intellect, where reasoning cannot reach. To open that Sushumna is the prime object of the Yogi. According to him, along this Sushumna are ranged these centres or plexuses or in 'more figurative language, these lotuses, as they are called. The lowest one is at the lower end of the spinal cord and is called Muladhara. The next higher and below the Naval is called Swadhisthan, the third at the naval Manipur, the fourth near the heart Anahat, the fifth near the neck Vishudha, the sixth between the eye brows Ajna and the last which is the brain is the Sahasrar or the thousand petalled. Of these we have to take cognition of two centres only the lowest Muladhara and the highest the Sahasrar. All energy has to be taken up from its seat in the Muladhara and brought to the Sahasrar. The Yogis claim that of all the energies that are in the Human Body, the highest is what they call "Ojas". Now this Ojas, is stored in the Brain and the more Ojas is in a man's head, the more powerful he is, the more

THE PLEXUSES



intellectual the more spiritually strong. Every movement of his is powerful. That is the power of Ojas.

The Yogins say that, that part of the human energy which is expressed as sex-energy in sexual thought, when checked and controlled easily becomes changed into Ojas. It is only the chaste man or woman who can make the Ojas rise and store it in the Brain. This is why chastity has always been considered the highest virtue. A man feels that if he is unchaste, Spirituality goes away. He loses mental vigour and moral stamina. If people practise Raja Yoga and at the same time lead an impure life, how can they expect to become Yogis?

Now, to come back to the Kundalini if this coiled up energy be roused and made active and then consciously made to travel up the Sushumna canal, as it acts upon centre after centre, a tremendous reaction will set in. Now when by the power of long internal meditation, the vast mass of energy stored up travels along the Sushumna and strikes the centres, the reaction is tremendous. It is super-sensuous perception. And when it reaches the metropolis of all sensations, the brain, the whole brain reacts and the result is the full blaze of illumination, the perception of the Self.

As this Kundalini force travels from centre to centre, layer after layer of the mind, as it were,

opens up and this universe is perceived by the Yogi in its fine or Causal form. Then alone the causes of this Universe, both as sensation and reaction are known as they are, and hence comes all knowledge. The causes being known, the knowledge of the effects is sure to follow.

Thus the rousing of the Kundalini is the one and only way to attaining Divine Wisdom, Super-conscious perception or realisation of the Spirit. The rousing may come in various ways, (1) through love of God, (2) through the mercy of perfected sages or (3) through the power of the analytic will of the philosopher.

As seated on the seat prescribed for meditation and when this erect perpendicular posture of the thorax, neck and head as recommended for meditation is actually practised by the aspirant, from day to day, there is locking up of the human frame in three centres which are called Viz The Mulbandh, the Odiyana and the Jalundhar. Locking up is equal to interlocking. The Mulbandh interlocking is down below in the Anal portion. The Odiyana Bandh interlocking is a little higher up and yet below the naval portion. The Jalandar Bandh is in the neck portion when the chin covers up the throat.

Note:— Any amount of description of the above posture cannot convince an aspirant to practise on

the strength of his book knowledge alone. He has to perforce resort to one who is an adept in this practice of Yoga for detailed instructions. Still the following description of the Asana or Posture will help as a general guide.

PARSHNI- The posterior end of the foot (the heel)

SHIVANI - A median ridge which indicates the position of the scrotal raphe extends forwards from the anus over the scrotum to the Penis.

Now the Asan for meditation can be described as under-

The Parshni or heel or the posterior end of the right leg is the fulcrum on which the whole human frame has to balance itself, when seated in the Asan or posture for meditation. The median ridge (Shivani) between the Anus and the scrotum should be made to rest just at its centre on the fulcrum of the Parshni or heel.

The Asan or sitting posture for Meditation as recommended by the Saint Shri Dnyaneshwar in the Teeka (Dnyaneshwari) can be described as under-

(1) The posterior end of the right foot (the heel) should, as a fulcrum rest under the suture or median ridge indicating the position of the scrotal raphe, midway between the Anus and the scrotum

(2) The median malleolus of the right leg and the dip below it, should serve as sockets for the lateral malleolus and the dip below it, of the left foot.

(3) Thus the human frame will rest on the two knees in front and the heel of the right foot behind

(4) The palms of the two hands should rest on the respective knees

(5) The two shoulders will appear to have been raised a little higher so that the chin can be made to cover the throat and reach the upper end of the sternum.

(6) The testes in this position are automatically drawn upwards from the scrotum.

(7) The breathing in and out should be regulated at proper intervals

(8) The name of God or the Syllable OUM should be linked to the breath, either way.

Leave apart the mysterious powers attained by a seeker during the course of his practice, the Saint observes as under -

The Lord says to Arjuna :-

आम्ही माघन जे हे सांगितले । तेचि शरीरी जिही केले ।
 ते धामुषेनि पाडे आले । निवृत्तिदेया ॥ ३२३
 परब्रह्मचे निरमे । देहादृतीचियेनि मुने ।
 यात्रीय जाहने सने । दिगती भागे ॥ ३२४
 जरी हे प्रतीतिहून अवरी पाके । तरी विरयधि हे अवघे झाले ।
 तथ भर्तृन म्हणे निवे । माघचि जी हे । ३२८

Those that will follow up the practice of meditation as advised by me so far, are sure to establish their identity with me, as they will be free from the smoke-screen of Illusion

However, Arjuna gets nervous as to whether he possesses the requisite qualification for the Practice of the Yoga.

The Lord thereupon assures him that the qualifications are not very difficult to attain. One who leads a regulated life will be immensely qualified for practice, provided he has an inclination to despise the sense-objects. Regulated life means and includes control on diet, on sleep, on all activities of the isolated parts of the human frame, singly or in combination.

In short the Lord says the practice of Yoga must be coupled with the dexterity in handling the same and then the mind comes easily and automatically under control. The result is the lustrous and refulgent manifestation of the Soul, assuming the form of the Human frame in which so far lay deep hidden the individual spiriton of the seeker. When the seer realises the vision of the Lord, he is no longer able to see the world behind the vision, which is corroborated by Shri Shankaracharya in his Yogataravali (vide chapter V)

Here we quote two verses Nos. 15 and 28, out of which the former indicates the condition of the

aspirant when he begins to practice and the latter when he goes to the end of his journey.

युञ्जन्नेवं सदाऽऽत्मानं योगी नियतमानसः ।

शान्तिं निर्वाणपरमां मत्संस्थामधिगच्छति ॥ १५

युञ्जन्नेवं सदाऽऽत्मानं योगी विगतकल्मषः ।

मुखेन ब्रह्मसंस्पर्शमत्यन्तं सुखा मश्नुते ॥ २८

When the seeker or aspirant starts his practice on the lines already laid down in the preceding verses and with perfect control over his mind, he obtains the peace of mind, which is the characteristic of the Absolute Substratum and an Aspect of the Lord himself. Verse No 15

In the intervening 12 verses the lines on which the Practice should be adhered to, have been indicated and the result achieved is verse No 28

When the practice of Yoga is carried on by the seeker along the lines indicated in the preceding verses, the results achieved are as under :-

The aspirant has all his sins washed off by the advent of self realisation and then he eats the pleasure ensuing from the touch of the Absolute Substratum, with intense delight. We have already referred to the eating of this pleasure in chapter No V, and the same needs no repetition here

The Saint describes this condition as under :-

मं मुखायेति सांगते । आने परब्रह्मा भातीते ।

तेषु लक्षण जैम ज्ञाते । सादृ नेचै ॥ ३८८

The aspirants with intense delight plunge themselves in the Brahman and become one with the same as for instance a piece of salt dissolves in water and becomes water itself. This is in fact the Doctrine of Merger. A Yogin returns to the original abode from which he has sprung up. He starts his journey as a नियतमानसः (with the mind under control) and at the end of the same he becomes विगतकल्मषः (has his sins all washed off by the torrent of knowledge). He gets peace of mind with the mind under control. He eats the pleasure when he could gain contact with the refulgent luster of the manifestation of the Soul. The mighty Saint of Nimbargi used to say that the aspirant gains the vision of the Lord first and later on establishes his contact with the vision and ultimately, is blessed with the faculty of mutual conversation. These are the landmarks on the path of spiritual progress viz vision, embrace and conversation Cf Verse No, 29 of the 2nd Chapter.

Hereafter Arjuna naturally asks the Lord as to what would be the fate of an aspirant, that succumbs to death even before he has achieved the goal.

The Lord gives him the assurance as under:-

पार्थ नैवेह नामुत्र विनाशस्तस्य विद्यते ।
न हि कल्याणकृत्कश्चिद् दुर्गेति तात गच्छति ॥ ४०

The Lord says to Arjuna:-

The Aspirant can never meet with any reverses. Be sure, such an evolved soul can never

perish The only obstacle shall be that he will have to make a halt at the station until he gets another birth either in the family of very pious and pure souls or in the family of those that have accumulated their fortunes for generations together. And thereafter the aspirant begins his onward march from where he had come to a standstill, in his previous life

The description given by the Saint is as under:-

मोटकी देहाकृति उमटे । आणि निजज्ञानाची पाहान्ट फुटे ॥

सूर्यापुढे प्रगटे । प्रकाश जैसा ॥

तैसी दरोची वाट न पाहतां । वयसेचिया गांवा न येता ॥

वाळपणीच सर्वज्ञता । वरी तयाते ॥

तिये सिद्धप्रज्ञेचेनि लाभे । मनचि सारस्वते दुभे ॥

मग सकळ शास्त्रे स्वयभे । निघति मुखे ॥

तैतें दुर्मल जे अभिप्राव । कां गुरुगम्य हन ठाय ॥

तेंथ सारमेवीण जाय । बुद्धि तयाची ॥

ऐसे नेणो काय आपेंमे । तयातेंचि कीजे अभ्यामे ।

समाधि घर पुसे । मानसाचे ॥

तैतें विश्व जेथ होये । मागीते जेथ लया जाये ।

तें बिघमानेंचि देहे । जाहला तो गा ॥

Even when he is quite young or rather even when he is yet a child, the spring of knowledge jets out from him, just as light springs forth before the Sun begins to shine on the horizon. And even when the milk teeth are yet to drop away, he becomes gifted with omniscience. His mind becomes suffused with the omniscient condition and for the mere

opening of the mouth the tongue voluntarily gives out all the sciences automatically.

Besides, his intellect becomes sharpened enough even to penetrate the most abstruse problems or even those which could not be grasped without the guidance of the master himself. In short, he appears as the personification of the practice of Yoga itself. And the very condition of trance or Samadhi seeks shelter under his auspices.

And even though his body cover is yet hanging loose around him, he appears as if already drowned in the Absolute Substratum – the Brahman, which is the origin as well as the dissolution of the Universe. And this is the autobiography of the Saint himself.

तपस्विभ्योऽधिको योगी ज्ञानिभ्योऽपि मतोऽधिकः ।
 कर्मिभ्यश्चाधिको योगी तस्माद्योगी भवार्जुन ॥ ४६
 योगिनामपि सर्वेषां मद्गतेनान्तरात्मना ।
 श्रद्धावान्भजते यो मां स मे युक्ततमो मतः ॥ ४७

There are individuals practising penance. There are others who seek after knowledge to find out the truth. There are still others who stick to their legitimate duties and performances. But a Yogin excels them all in his achievements.

The Yogins in their achievements excel all others no doubt. But they plunge in me and lose their separate entity at once. Still amongst such Yogins

there are others who instead of losing their separate entity at once by merger, prefer to be still devoted to me with unflinching faith and with their minds in absolute union with me. And I hold the latter in high esteem because they make conversation possible for me by their separate entity, and the Lord says; further allow me to share in their beatification.

Thus ends chapter VI styled as the Practice of meditation.

CHAPTER VII

तथावरी सप्तमी । प्रकृति परिहारउपक्रमी ।

करुनि भजत्तीजे पुरुषोत्तमी । ते बोलिले चाह्नी ॥

Then comes the 7th chapter which enumerates the Seven Doctrines from verses 4 to 19 beginning with the origin of the Universe due to the working of the display of the Illusion or Maya attending upon the Absolute Brahman or the Purush like his shadow and ending with the four types of devotees that offer their prayers to the Almighty Lord as per their inherent cravings.

The Lord says:—

मय्यासक्तमनाः पार्थ योग युञ्जन्मदाधयः ।

असदाय समग्रं मां यथा ज्ञास्यसि तच्छृणु ॥१॥

ज्ञानं तेऽहं सविज्ञानमिदं वक्ष्याम्यशेषतः ।

यज्ज्ञात्वा नेह भूयोऽन्यज्ज्ञातव्यमवशिष्यते ॥२॥

Deeply absorbed in the practice of Yoga (i. e. Union with God) and resorting to God and with the mind riveted on God, as you stand now, please listen further how you will have the all sided knowledge of the Universe which has sprung up from the Infinite Brahman. I will explain to you the significance of the realisation of God along with the all sided knowledge of the Universe that has sprung up from the Infinite Brahman exhaustively in all the aspects, so that nothing further will be left to be known.

आहका मग तो श्रीअनंतु । पार्थतिं असे म्हणतु ।
 ये गग तूं योगयुक्तु । जालासि आतां ।
 मज संमग्रातें जाणसी ऐसे । आपुलिया तळहातीचे रत्न जैसें ।
 तुज ज्ञान सांगेन तैसे । विज्ञानेसी ॥

The Lord says to Arjuna "You have now realised the Self and therefore (fully qualified as you stand now) i. e. as you have fulfilled the Condition-
 precedent to receive further knowledge, I explain to you the secret of realisation as well as that of the Universe in its entirety, that has sprung up from the Absolute Substratum viz the Brahman.

मनुष्याणा सहस्रेषु कश्चित्तद्वयति सिद्धये ।
 यततामपि सिद्धानां कश्चिन्मा वेत्ति तत्त्वतः ॥३॥

Amongst thousands of Individuals scarcely can we find any one striving for the attainment of Self-realisation And amongst thousands of Such Seekers after truth is scarcely seen a single person who attains the goal and realises my extent in its entirety

N. B. The words ज्ञानतेज्ज्ञं स विज्ञानम् and कश्चिन्मावेत्ति तत्त्वतः = तत्त्वतः ज्ञानम् are the same.

तत्त्वतः ज्ञानम् means and includes the origin of the Universe from the Absolute Substratum the Brahman as well as the return journey to the original abode through the Tunnel of Self-realisation, which is a very narrow tortuous and difficult passage to pass through i. e. Evolution from and Involution into the Absolute Sub-stratum viz the Brahman

This verse is the crux of this chapter, as it briefly summarises the तत्त्वतःज्ञानम् which means and includes both Evolution from and Involution into the Absolute Substratum called the Infinite Brahman. This Evolution and Involution is explained in seven categories in the form of Seven Doctrines which are adumbrated in the following verses from 4 to 19 both inclusive and further explained in details in the second part in Chapters Nos 10 to 16 both inclusive as under.

भूमिरापोऽनलो वायुः खं मनो बुद्धिरेव च ।
 अहंकार इतीयं मे भिन्ना प्रकृतिरष्टधा ॥४॥
 अपरेयमितस्त्वन्या प्रकृति विद्धि मे पराम् ।
 जीवभूता महाबाहो ययेदं धार्यते जगत् ॥५॥
 एतद्योनीनि भूतानि सर्वाणित्युपधारय ।
 अहं कृत्स्नस्य जगतः प्रभवः प्रलयस्तथा ॥६॥

The Earth, water, fire, air, sky, mind and intellect along with the Ego constitute the eight-fold Nature in the process of Evolution (from the Brahman). This is the visible aspect of my Nature. Beyond this part is the invisible aspect of the Nature, which gives rise to and sustains the animate world

All the types of the animate world spring up from this Invisible aspect of my Nature. I am therefore the origin of the entire Universe, which finally merges in me during the course of Involution.

Now the 13th chapter is: क्षेत्रज्ञं योगो नाम त्रयोदशोऽध्यायः । and the same chapter deals with the प्रकृति

पुण्ययोगोनाम also. Besides it deals with the four-fold path to the Gateway of providence.

Now the 13th Chapter of the 2nd part is:

क्षेत्रक्षेत्रज्ञ योगो नामत्रयोदशोऽध्यायः

The human frame is compared to the field and the tenant who occupies the same for the time being is looked upon as the cultivator.

The Human frame is described in detail as under:-

महाभूतान्यहंकारो बुद्धिरव्यक्तमेव च ।

इन्द्रियाणि दशैकं च पञ्चवेन्द्रियमोवचः ॥ १३-५

इच्छा द्वेषः सुखं दुःखं संघातश्चेतना धृतिः ।

एतत्क्षेत्रं समासेन सविकारमुदाहृतम् ॥ १३-६

The five elements namely, Earth, water, air, fire and sky, the Ego with its ism, the intellect, the Invisible प्रकृति or Nature or Illusion. The ten organs, the mind and the ten sense objects-Desire, Aversion, Pleasure, pain the harmonious (chemical combination- सघातः of the foregoing elements as well as their- faculties, sentiency चेतना) and the self-sustenance धृतिः All these qualities conjointly constitute the field along with their varied transformations.

Now the Ego that is the cultivator is encaged in this field or the Human machine, as it is designated and imagines by prolonged habitation that he himself is the machine. He is disillusioned when the rays

of knowledge dawn on him and he is entirely transformed into an altogether different personality. The change that is brought out is transparent and can be noticed from the change in his activities. He realises that he is the same as the Infinite Brahman that surrounds him

The same chapter further deals with the same subject in different manner which is styled as प्रकृति पुरुष योगोनाम.

Here प्रकृति is treated as akin to क्षेत्र and पुरुष as क्षेत्रज्ञ. Thus प्रकृति पुरुष योगोनाम can as well be the designation of the 13th chapter in as much as Pürush is taken as the Absolute Substratum called the Brahman and प्रकृति is the transformation of the Absolute in the form of the Universe which comprises both the animate as well as the inanimate world

Lastly the same chapter deals with the four-fold path leading to the Gateway of Providence thereby indicating that the ultimate goal of a Human being is to be identified with the source from which he has sprung up :

ध्यानेनात्मनि पश्यन्ति केचिदात्मानमात्मना ।
अन्ये सांख्येन योगेन कर्मयोगेन चापरे ॥२४॥
अन्ये त्वेवमजानन्त श्रुत्वान्येभ्य उपासते ।
तेऽपि चातितरन्त्येव मुन्यु श्रुतिपरायणाः ॥

The first one refers to the practice of Yoga as directed by Patanjali, as already dealt with in the 6th chapter.

The second path is the one followed by the सांख्यas and the 3rd one by the कर्मयोगीs.

Both of them have a clear understanding regarding the constituent parts of the Human machine; after a thorough analysis of the same, they have arrived at the definite conclusion that they are the senses, the mind and Intellect. And the whole Human frame depends upon the use of the sense objects with the help of these three ingredients,

Now the Sankhyas keep their senses aloof from the sense objects and compel them to wither away by perfect neglect and disuse. whereas the Karmayogis having realised their utility, exhaust the senses by allowing them to make judicious and limited use of the sense-objects. Thus both the Sankhyas and Karmayogis achieve the same end, the former by causing their senses to wither away by their utter disuse and the latter by exhausting them after their judicious and proper use. In short both of them maintain perfect harmony between their mind and intellect and with their united efforts either wither away or exhaust their senses by their disuse or proper judicious exertions.

The fourth pathway is more or less a right royal road, provided one finds a proper guide to follow and tries to observe the directions to a letter as laid down by the preceptor. The Ego is there no

doubt but the ism of the Ego is the obstacle in the way of the seeker after truth. - And the Saint in very eloquent terms describes how this ism can be removed and the ego thereby automatically shorn off its thorny and poisonous tentacles.

मृणोनि दीप पालवे । सवेचि तेज मालवे ।
 कां रविदिवासवे । प्रकाशु जाय ॥
 उचललेया प्राणासरिसी । इन्द्रिये निघती आपसी ।
 तैसा मन बुद्धिपाशी । अहंकार ये ॥
 मृणोनि माझिया स्वरूपी । मन बुद्धि इवेनिक्षेपी ॥
 येतुलेनिसर्वव्यापी । मीचिहोसी ॥

Just as when the current is switched off, light is out automatically or rather when the sun sets, light goes away. When the controller of breath quits the human machine, all other senses have perforce to follow suit. Similarly when this mind goes with the intellect, the ego is compelled to give up its offensive and tentacular ism. Therefore try to concentrate both mind and intellect on the vision of the Lord and you will pervade the whole Universe and will be identified with me.

This is in short the fourth path leading to the Gateway of Providence.

Thus we find that the 13th Chapter explains in detail the Doctrine set forth in the 3 verses Nos. 4, 5 and 6.

— 22 —

CHAPTER 'VIII'

मत्तः परतरं नाव्यक्तिकचिदस्ति धनंजय ।

मयि सर्वमिदं प्रोक्तं सूत्रे मणिगणा इव ॥७॥

There is nothing in the Universe which is not pervaded and infiltrated by me. With respect to the entire Universe, I am like the string in the Rosary of beads.

हे रोहिणीचे जळ । तयाचे पाहतां येइजे मूळ ।

ते रश्मि नव्हती केवळ । होय ते भानु ॥२९॥

तयाचिपरी किरीटी । इया प्रकृति जालिये सुष्टी ।

जे उपसंहर्षति कीजेल ठी । ते मोचि आहे ॥

ऐसं होय दिस न दिसे । हे मजचि माजी असे ।

मियां विदव धगिजे जेंस । सूत्रे मणि ॥

मुक्कणाचि मणी केले । ते मोनियाचि मुनी बोविले ।

तेस म्या जग धरिले । मवाह्यान्वतरी ॥ ८-२२

If we trace the source of the mirage it is not the rays of the Sun but the Sun Himself.

Similarly, if we scan the origin of the Universe, it is really the Infinite Absolute and not the Nature which is apparent. The springing up as well as vanishing away of the Universe is all a play within the Infinite Absolute. The universe is thus supported by the Lord Almighty, as a rosary of beads by the thread passing through them. Not even this. Just as a golden thread passes through a bunch of golden beads, similarly the entire Universe is pervaded and infiltrated by the Infinite Absolute or Brahman.

Now, in illustration of this verse, we can very well open Chapter XI of the second part and find therein the vision of the Almighty Lord itself assuming the form of the Universe in its entirety.

हे सर्वही सर्वेश्वर । ऐमा प्रतीतिगत जो पतिकर ।
 तो बाहेरी होआवा गोचर । लोचनासी ॥ ११२९
 हे जीवा आंतुली चाड । परी देवासी सांगता साकड ।
 कां जे विश्वरूप गूढ । कैसेनि पुमावे ॥
 आणि न पुसेचि जरी म्हणे । तरी विश्वरूप देखिलियाविणे ।
 सुख नोहेचि परी जिणे । तेही विषाये ॥ ३०

Arjuna had realised and verified by experience the truthfulness of the abstract Doctrine of Omnipresence of the Lord, within himself; but now he entertained the ambition to have an actual Demonstration of the Doctrine before his eyes in a concrete form.

This was his desire lurking in the innermost recesses of his heart; yet felt constrained to express the same to the Lord because it was referring directly to the Omnipresence of the Lord himself.

At the same time, he felt his own life itself would hang heavily on him, nay even it may not be possible any more to continue to live, if he hesitated to ask for the same and missed the opportunity forever.

अर्जुन उवाच
 मदनुग्रहाय परम गुह्यमध्यात्म सन्नितम्
 यत्त्वयोक्त वचस्तेन मोहोऽयं विगतोऽयम् ॥ ११॥

my delusion has disappeared on listening to your advice which referred to the inner-most secret viz the realisation of the Self and which you did to shower your grace on me

मी जगो एक अर्जुनु । ऐसा देही बाहे अभिमानु ।
 आणि कौरवातें इया स्वजनु । आपुले म्हणे ॥ ५१
 याहीवरी यातें मी मारीन । म्हणें तें पापे के रिगेन ।
 ऐसे देखत होतो दुःस्वप्न । तो जेवविला प्रभु ॥ ५२

The ism that Arjuna was the only solitary warrior of the world and that the Kauravas were his kith and kin, was haunting the mind of Arjuna and he was dreaming all along in the same hypnotic condition when he was awakened to consciousness by the Lord

मवाप्यमी हि भूताना श्रुती विस्तरशो मया ।
 त्वत्त कमलपद्माश माहात्म्यमपि चाव्ययम् ॥ २

Arjuna says to the Lord, I have listened to the detailed account of the origin (existence) and dissolution of the Universe, or the evolution and Involution of the Universe, as well as your everlasting grandeur and Sublimity from you.

एवमेतद्यथाश्रित्य त्वमात्मानं परमेश्वर ।
 द्रष्टुमिच्छामि ते रूपमेश्वरं पुराणोत्तम ॥ ३

Verily, O Lord, says Arjuna, I am intensely anxious to have an actual vision in front of my eyes, of the transcendental aspect of your Divine personality, as you have described

मग बोलिला 'तो किरीटी' । म्हणे तुम्ही केली जे गोडी ॥
 तिया प्रतीतीची दिठी । निवाली माझी ॥ ८१
 आतां जयाचेनि संकल्पें । हे लोकपरंपरा होय हारपे ॥
 जया ठायते आपणपें । मी ऐसे म्हणसी ॥ ८२
 तें मुद्दल रूप तुझें । जेथूनि इयें द्विभुजें हन चतुर्भुजें ॥
 सुरकायचिनि व्याजें । घेवोंघेवों येमी ॥ ८३
 ऐसं अगाध जें तुझे । विश्वरूप कानीं ऐकिजे ॥
 तें देखावया चित्त माझे । उतावीळ देवा ॥ ८६

Then says Arjuna to the Lord : I am entirely satisfied within myself by your words and am thoroughly convinced regarding their veracity.

Now, I am anxious to have an actual Demonstration before my eyes, on the canvas of the Universe of the unfathomable primeval Infinite Absolute Substratum, from which emanate your Divine manifestations in this world in the form of Avatars, which assumes the form of Universal expansion, wherein all the worlds are born at will, wherein they appear to exist, and wherein they are ultimately dissolved, and which you style as your original Divine Aspect.

मन्वसे यदि तच्छक्य मया द्रष्टुमिति प्रभो ।
 योगेश्वर ततो मे त्व दशंयाऽऽमानमव्ययम् ॥ ४

Thereafter Arjuna prays to the Lord : ' You can, Oh Lord present your Divine Aspect before me in case you find it possible for me to visualise the same.

एक विश्वरूप देखावे । ऐता मनोरथु केला पांडवें ।
 की विश्वरूपमय आपवे । करुनि पातले ॥ १६

It was the expectation of Arjuna that the Lord would manifest himself before him as a solitary unit of his Omnipresence but to his utter surprise he found that the entire Universe was transformed into infinite forms of the same Omnipresence.

श्रीमगवानुवाच :-

पश्य मे पार्थ रूपाणि शतशोऽप्य सहस्रशः ।

नानाविधानि दिव्यानि नानावर्णकृतोनि च ॥ ५

The Lord thereafter exhorts Arjuna to have a look at the Infinite Forms of his Omnipresence, scattered in manifold radiant colours and forms.

The Lord, while dancing to the tune of Arjuna's wishes, failed to notice that he had not blessed Arjuna with the insight to have a vision of his infinite forms on the canvas of the Universe; but when he found that Arjuna was merely staring at him with listless eyes, He blessed him with the necessary insight.

न तु मां शक्यसे द्रष्टुमनेनैव स्वचक्षुषा ।

दिव्यं ददामि ते चक्षुः पश्य मे योगमैश्वरम् ॥ ८

The Lord thereafter says to Arjuna: It is not possible for you to grasp MY OMNIPRESENT ASPECTS WITH YOUR PHYSICAL EYES AND HENCE I BLESS YOU WITH THE DIVINE INSIGHT.

सत्य उवाच :-

एवमुक्त्वा ततो राजन्महायोगेश्वरो हरिः ।

दर्शयामास पार्थाय परमं रूपमैश्वरम् ॥ ९

Sanjaya says: -With these words, the Lord manifested himself before Arjuna in his Infinite, Sublime and Sovereign forms.

अदृष्टपूर्वं हृषितोऽस्मि दृष्ट्वा भयेन च प्रव्यथितं मनो मे ।

तदेव मे दर्शय देव रूपं प्रसीद दिवेश जगन्निवास ॥ ४५

Arjuna then says to the Lord: I am delighted, yet at the same time exceedingly alarmed at the sight of your forms which have never been seen before. O Lord, be pleased therefore to become as you were before.

मया प्रसन्नेन तवाजुर्नेदं रूपं परं दर्शितमात्मयोगात् ।

तेजोमयं विश्वमनन्तमाद्य यन्मे त्वदन्येन न दृष्टपूर्वम् ॥ ४७

The Lord replies to Arjuna.

Being pleased at your request, I have revealed unto you my transcendental form due to my own inherent and potential power.

This transcendental, Universal refulgent infinite and primeval form has hitherto never been seen by any one else than you

सजय उवाच ।—

इत्यर्जुनं वासुदेवस्तथोक्त्वा स्वकं रूपं दर्शयामास भूय ।

आश्वासयामास च भीतमेन भूत्वा पुनः सौम्यवपुर्महात्मा ॥ ५०

Sanjaya says: The Lord gave assurance to Arjuna, not to be frightened at the sight of the ghastly appearance of the Lord) and consequently manifested himself before him by assuming his original form.

अर्जुन उवाच :-

दृष्ट्वेदं मानुषं रूपं तव सीम्यं जनार्दन ।

इदानीमस्मि सवृत्तः सचेताः प्रकृति गतः ॥ ५१

Arjuna says: Oh Lord, at the sight of this your mild human form, I have regained my peace of mind and am restored to my normal nature.

मुदुर्दंशमिदं रूपं दृष्टवानसि यन्मम ।

देवा अप्यस्य रूपस्य नित्य दर्शनकाङ्क्षिणः ॥ ५२

My primeval form, which you have now seen, is extremely rare an occurrence for others and even the Gods are ever anxious to have a vision of the same.

नाह वेदैर्न तपसा न दानेन न चेज्यया ।

शक्य एवविधो द्रष्टु दृष्टवानसि मा यथा ॥ ५३

It is not possible for any person to have the vision of my transcendental manifestation of the type which you have witnessed, be it on their part with the study of the Vedas, or with the practice of penance, or with the aid of Donations or with the help of Sacrifices.

भक्त्या त्वनन्यया शक्य अहमेवविधोऽर्जुन ।

ज्ञातु द्रष्टु च तत्त्वेन प्रवेष्टुं च परंतप ॥ ५४

It is only through an unalloyed and single pointed Devotion towards me that one can have transcendental insight into the transcendental as well as Universal Aspect of Providence and further, he

will be enabled to have God-Intoxication and final immersion in God.

These three phases are the same as demonstrated by the three Doctrines viz तत्त्वमसि, अहं ब्रह्मास्मि and सर्वं सत्तु इदं ब्रह्म which mean God-realisation, God-intoxication and finally God-immersion.

The Lord thereafter generalises the proposition and says to Arjuna:-

मत्कर्मकुम्भपरमो मद्भक्तः सङ्गवर्जितः ।
निर्वैरः सर्वभूतेषु यः स मामेति पांडव ॥ ५५ ॥

He, who dedicates all his activities to me, who recognises me as the final goal to be reached, who is entirely devoted to me, who has no-where any attachment and who has not the slightest tinge of enmity at heart for all beings in the world, is the person who can aspire to be in tune with me.

Here ends the 11th Chapter which thoroughly explains the meaning of the verse.

मत्त परतर नात्यत्किञ्चिदस्ति धनंजय ।
मयि सर्वमिदं प्रोतं सूत्रे मणिगणा इव ॥

CHAPTER IX

Now we take up the verses 8, 9, 10 and 11

रसोऽहमप्सु कौन्तेय प्रभास्मि दशिसूर्ययो ।
 प्रणव सर्ववेदेषु शब्द स्ते पौरप नृपु ॥८॥
 पुण्यो गन्ध पृथिव्या च तेजश्चास्मि विभावसी ।
 जीवन सर्वभूतेषु तपश्चास्मि तपस्विषु ॥९॥
 बीज मा सर्वभूताना विद्धि पार्थ सनातनम् ।
 बुद्धिर्बुद्धिमतामस्मि तेजस्तेजस्विनामहम् ॥१०॥
 बल बलवता चाह कामरागविवर्जितम् ।
 धर्माविरुद्धो भूतेषु कामोऽस्मि भरतर्षभ ॥११॥

Here the Lord mentions to Arjuna, the various forms and aspects which are manifested or assumed in the process of the Evolution of the Universe by the Absolute Infinite Substratum at the sweet will of Providence Himself These manifestations or aspects are as under—

The fluidity and the taste of water, the refulgent radiance or the lustre of the Sun and Moon, the syllable OM in the Vedas, the occurrence of sound in the sky, the manhood in man, sacred and sweet smell of the Earth, the lustre of fire, the life in all beings, asceticism in ascetics All these qualities have sprung up from me says the Lord I am the everlasting seed of all beings, I am the talent of the Talented, I am the lustre of the Radiant beings I am the strength

of the strong, -free from any passion or craving. I am the will in the beings which does not violate the order of society.

Now all these manifestations are treated at length in the 10th Chapter as under:—

The eminent author of the Celestial Song with his unbounded intellect and profound scholarship begins the 10th Chapter with the very significant adverb BHUYAS, meaning 'Again,' thereby signifying in unequivocal terms that the subsequent chapters only repeated what has been already stated in foregoing nine chapters.

The verse runs as under—

भूय एव महाबाहो शृणु मे परम वचः ।
यत्तेहं प्रीयमाणाय वक्ष्यामि हितकाम्यया ॥१॥

The Lord says to Arjuna—

Please listen to my supremely significant advice again, thereby indicating that all further conversation is only a repetition of what has been already stated in the foregoing chapters. And because of the sweet love I cherish for you I am doing this entirely for your eternal welfare; please therefore listen to my supremely significant advice again. The Saint also lays special emphasis on the word BHUYAS (again) and states as under—

तैसा कृपाळुवाचारावो.।.म्हणे.आइकेगा महाबाहो ।
सागितलाचि अभिप्रावो । सागेन पुढती ॥

The Lord, who was exceedingly kind at heart, says to Arjuna 'Please listen to the same advice which I am repeating again.'

१' - वै प्रसन्नवर्णं क्षेत्रं पेरिजे । पिकाची जवजव वाढी दिसिजे ।
 या लागीं नुवगिजे । वाहो करिता ।
 पुढतपुढती पुढे देता । जोडे घानियेची अधिकता ।
 म्हणोन सोने पाहसुता । शोष्टूचि आवडे ॥
 तैसे एथ पार्या । तुज आभार नाहीं सर्वथा ।
 आम्ही आपुलियाचि स्वार्था । बोलो पुढती ॥
 जैसे बालका लेवविजे लेणे । ते शृंगाराते वाई जाणे ।
 परी ते गुलाचे सोहळे भोगणे । भाउलिये दिठी ।
 तैसे तुझे हित आपवे । जव जव ना तुज पावे ।
 तवतव आमुचें सुख दुणावे । ऐसे आहे ॥
 आता अर्जुना अमो हे विवडी । मज उघड तुझी आवडी ।
 म्हणानि वृत्तिची सबडी । बोलता न पडे ॥
 आम्हा येतुलियाचि कारण । तेचि ते तुजसी बोलणें
 परी अमो हे अत काणे । अवधान घेई ॥
 तरी आईकिया सुवर्ण । वाक्य माकं परम् ।
 जे असरे लेवूनि परब्रम्ह । तुजसेवासि आहे ॥
 परी विरोटी तू माते । नेणसी ना निरुते ।
 तरी तो ना जो मी येथे । ते विश्वचि हे ॥

The cultivator cultivates the crops in his field from year to year and when he finds that there is greater yield every time, he feels encouraged to do the same work over again. Similarly during the process of purification of Gold, if one finds that the proportion of the alloy is decreasing every time, the operator becomes more enthusiastic every time, to carry on the same process.

Here we can cite again one similar incident in the life time of the great Lokmanya Tilak, who happened to use the word 'again' in the same strain in which the Author of the Celestial Poem made use of the word BHUYAS to begin the 10th Chapter.

Lokmanya Tilak was released from the jail after his first term of rigorous imprisonment and he resumed the editorship of the 'Kesari' a weekly paper hitherto published by him, and the first article appeared with the Headline "पुनश्च हरिः ओम्" thereby meaning that he undertook the Editorship of his paper to conduct the same in the same style and on the same lines as before.

The eminent author of the Celestial Poem also uses the word 'BHUYAS' to begin the 10th chapter to connote that he is resuming the same story of the ninth Chapter in the same strain to hammer the self-same truth and same ideas or Doctrines on the Disciple, once again.

The Lord says to Arjuna that he is repeating the same story to him because it was more a source of greater pleasure for the Lord himself rather than the conferring of any obligations on the disciple.

The mother adorns her child with ornaments even though they are teasing to the child And her actions are entirely intended to satisfy her own eyes.

Like-wise I feel delighted more and more when I find that my words are conducive to your greater welfare.

The Lord thereafter says to Arjuna :

Enough of this allegory; I am candid to say that I do cherish sweet love for you and hence I am hammering the same principles on your mind. Please therefore listen to what I SAY NOW BECAUSE MY WORDS ARE BRAHMAN ITSELF AS DRESSED IN THE COAT OF ALPHABETS.

The Lord further says to Arjuna, you are not capable of realising my exact nature because, though I look only as Lord Krishna in your eyes, please beware, I am myself the world.

न मे विदुः सुरगणाः प्रभव न महर्षयः ।

अहमादिहि देवाना महर्षीणां च सर्वशः ॥२॥

Neither the Celestial Gods nor the sages on the Earth aspire to trace my origin Because I am the source of the Celestial Gods as well as of the sages on the Earth

Before proceeding with the details of this chapter, it behoves us well to deal with the principles of the Nasadeeya Sukta which have been adopted by the Author almost to a letter, in this chapter.

नासदासीन्नो सदासीत् तदानीम् ।

नासीद्वज्रो ना व्योमा परोयत् ।

किमा बरीव कुहकस्य धमन् ।

अथ । किमासीत् गहन गभीरम् ॥१॥

Then, at the beginning of the Universe or even prior to it never did there exist either the being, or the not-being and also either the heavens or even the space beyond; who could say then that whatever existed was enveloped by some-thing else, and where and for whose pleasure or happiness? Did there exist a vast and deep expanse of water at least?

न मृत्युरासीत् अमृतं न तर्हि ।

न राश्या मन्द्वासीत् प्रकेतः ॥

आनीदवातं स्वघयातदेकम् ।

तस्माद्धान्यन्न परः किंचनाऽऽस ॥२॥

Death or destruction meaning thereby the perishable and visible creation was not there and naturally the imperishable or invisible object also never existed. Nor was there any line or means of Demarkation between night and day.

What existed was only one Single Substratum breathing or bubbling up under its own inherent Influence and in the absence of any atmosphere. And that was the lonely Brahman without a second. Besides this did there exist nothing else beyond.

तम आसीत् तमसा गूढमग्रे ।

अप्रकेतं सकलं सर्वमाद्दम् ॥

तुच्छेनाश्व दिहितं यदासीत् ।

तपसस्तन्महिताऽजायतैकम् ॥३॥

Darkness prevailed and at the beginning did there exist water engulfed in and undifferentiated

from that Darkness? And what is described as the all-pervading Brahman encircled by Maya even from the beginning, was the original lonely Brahman, later on transformed and rendered visible as Maya under the influence of its own will, penance or pleasure (TAPAS)

कामस्तदग्रे समवर्तताधि ।
मनसोरेत प्रथम यदासीत् ॥
सतोबन्धुमसति निरविन्दन् ।
हृदि प्रतीप्या कवयोमनीषा ॥४॥

Desire (to become many) first sprang up in the mind of the Brahman, with the result that at the first impulse was visibly manifested the metamorphosis of the Brahman or not-being into Maya or being (And the outhor of the Sukta states that the mighty saints or sages had experienced this vision as a result of deep meditation and had then rationally confirmed the same)

तिरश्चीनो विततोरस्मिरेषाम ।
अध स्विदासीत् उपरिस्विदासीत् ॥
रेतोद्या आसन् महिमान् आसन् ।
स्वधा अवस्तात् प्रयति परस्तात् ॥५॥

When the Brahman or Asat = not being entertained the first impulse to undergo metamorphosis, rays of light short forth from the Brahman in all directions, upwards downwards, transversely and diagonally, they became-infiltrated and thickened in parts which flourished in-exuberance with infinite energy on all sides and also far beyond

These rays of the Brahman or spiritóns as we may call them, pervade the animate as well as the inanimate world. And it is the self-same Ego or the ' I ' in all beings or in other words the (Jivatma) Individual soul.

को अद्वावेद क इह प्रवोचत् ।

कुत आजाता कुत इयं विसृष्टिः ।

अर्वाक् देवा अस्य विसर्जनेन ।

अथ को वेद यत आबभूव ॥६॥

Who can trace the origin of this metamorphosis or can supply further explanation or amplify further at length and definitely. The so-called Gods also are of later origin than that of this metamorphosis. Who can trace then the origin of this metamorphosis? Thus the so-called Gods can hardly be expected to possess any knowledge regarding the origin of the Universe.

इयं विसृष्टिः यत आबभूव ।

यदि बादधे यदि वा न दधे ॥

यो अस्याध्यक्षः परमे व्योमन् ।

सो अग वेद यदि वान वेद ॥७॥

Whence has all this Universe sprung up ? And whether does the same exist as such or does not. Similarly whosoever may be the overlord of this Universe, is he at least aware of this creation or not at all ?

Now we shall deal with the 10th. Chapter and see how – it conforms to the propositions set forth in the – Nasadieya Sukta treated above.

The Nasadieya Sukta says:-

अर्वाक् देवा अस्य विसर्जनेन ।

The Gods are of later origin than that of the creation; which is just the version of the celestial poem also in the 10th Chapter as already stated, which reads as under :-

नमे विदुः सुरगणाः प्रभव न महर्षयः ।

अहमादिहि देवाना महर्षीणां च सर्वशः ॥

I am the source of the Celestial Gods as well as of the sages on the Earth.

एष वेद मुके जाहाले । मन पवन पागुळले ।

रातीविण मावळले । रविशशी जेथ ॥

अगा उदरीचा गर्भु जैसा । न देखे आपुलिये मातेची वयसा ।

मी आघवेया देवा तैसा । नेणवे कांही ॥

आणि जळचरा उदधीचें मान । मशका नोलांडवेचि गगन ।

तेवी महर्षीचे ज्ञान । न देखेचि माते ॥

The Vedas are silent over this point. The flights of Imagination also fail to comprehend my extent and prowess. The Sun and the Moon also appear to fade away even before the advent of night. As the foetus in the womb can never be able to ascertain the age of its mother, similarly the Gods also fail to comprehend my extent. Or as the amphibia can hardly fathom the depth of the ocean or as the mosquitoes can never cross over the sky, similarly the mighty sages also can never be able to comprehend my greatness

यो माम जमनादि च वेत्ति लोक महेश्वरम् ।

असंमूढः समत्येषु सर्व पापैः प्रमुच्यते ॥

He who realises that I am the Overlord of the entire Universe and that I am the Infinite Absolute without any beginning and beyond the cycle of births and deaths, he alone amongst the mortals will have the veil of ignorance evaporated and his sins thoroughly washed away.

ऐसाही जरी विषाये । सांडूनि पुढील पाये ।

सर्वेन्द्रिया होये । पाठिमोरा जो ॥

प्रवर्तलाही वेगी बहुडे । देह सांडूनि मागिलीकडे ।

महाभूतांचिया चडे । माययावरी ॥

तेथ राहोनि ठायठिके । स्वप्रकाशे चोखे ।

अजत्व माझे देखे । आपुलिया डोळा ॥

मी आदीसी परू । सकळ लोक महेश्वरू ।

ऐसिया माते जो नरू । यापरी जाणे ॥

तो आप भयेचि साडिजे पापी । जैसा जळत चरनुसपीं ।

तेचि माते जाणोनि तो सकलपी । वर्जुनि धाणे ॥

तेचि आमुते कैसे जाणिजे । ऐसे कल्पी जरी चित तुझे ।

तरी मी ऐसा हे माझे । भाव आइके ॥

In the preceding verse the Lord has said that the Gods and the sages were of a later origin and therefore they were not able to realise the origin or the prowess of the Lord himself.

Inspite of this statement, says the Lord, if any real Seeker of truth, puts an end to all his cravings that are moving rapidly in advance, turns a deaf ear

to all his senses and in the midst of his activities immediately recoils and forgets all consciousness about his own human machine, then he gets control over the Elements. And when thus he feels secure in his position, he becomes Self-luminous or Self resplendent i. e. he attains the realisation of Self or God, then he is capable to visualise and appreciate my Infinite Divine Nature.

I am beyond any beginning or end and am the Overlord of the entire world. He who realises this aspect of mine, has his sins automatically washed off. Besides he ceases to be disturbed by any ideas or imaginations as a sandal tree, when burning is left off by serpents.

Now if you are curious to know the pathway leading to me, please listen to my manifestations and my inherent aspect as detailed below.

बुद्धिर्ज्ञानममोह. क्षमा सत्य दम. शमः ।

सुख दुःख भवोऽभावा भय चाभयमेव च ॥४॥

अहिंसा समता तुष्टिस्तपो दान यशोऽवशः ।

भवन्ति भावा भूताना-मत्त एव पृथग्विधाः ॥५॥

Intellect, knowledge, clear understanding, forbearance, truthfulness, self-restraint, peace of mind, existence, destruction, fear, fearlessness, fairness, contentment, austerity, bounty, fame, disgrace all these diverse moods or temperaments of beings proceed from me, which the creatures call their own.

महर्षयः सप्त पूर्व चत्वारो मनवस्त्वया ।

मद्भावा मानसा जाता येषां लोक इमाः प्रजाः ॥६॥

The seven mighty Seers of old, the four Manus have sprung up from me i. e. from my mind. And they are the source or origin of all future creation.

ऐसेनि हे विश्व येये । मीचि विस्तारलोसे निस्ते ।

परी भावाचे निहाते । माने जया ॥

Thus the entire Universe has ultimately sprung up from me, though through the agency of my lieutenants as stated above.

एतां विभूतिं योगं त्व मम यो वेत्ति तत्त्वतः ।

सोऽविकल्पेन योगेन युज्यते नात्र सहाय. ॥७॥

He who appreciates and realises this exhasustive aspect of mine and my manifestations, alone is capable of merging in me, with unhesitating or uncontaminated affinity

यालागी मुभद्रापती । हे भाव इया माझिया विभूती ।

आणि याचिया व्याप्ती । व्यापिलें जग ॥

म्हणीनि मा यापरी । ब्रह्मादिपिपीलिकावरी ।

मीवाचूनि दुसरी । गोठी नाही ॥

ऐसें जाणें जो साचे । तया चेडरे जाहाले ज्ञानाचे ।

म्हणीनि उत्तमाधम भेदाचे । दु खप्न न देखे ॥

मी माझिया विभूती । विभूती अधिष्ठितिया व्यक्ती ।

हे आघवे योगप्रतीती । एकचि मानी ॥

म्हणीनि नि शके येणें महायोगें । मज मोनला मनाचेंनि आंगें ।

एथ संशय करवे न लगे । तो विगुडी जाहला ॥

कां जे ऐसे किरीटी । माते भजे जो अभेदा दिठी ।

। तथाचि ये भजनाचे नाटी । सूती मज ॥

म्हणोनि अभेदे जो भवितयोगु । तेथ शंका नाही नये खंगु ।

करिता ठेला तरी चांगु । ते सांगितले पळी ॥

तोचि अभेदु कैसा । हे जाणावया मानसा ।

साद जाली तरी परियेसा । बोलि जेल ॥

The Lord says to Arjuna :-

It is in this light that you have to follow my manifestations as my lieutenants and that the entire world is pervaded by their Omnipresence. And hence, it is that from a mole to the mountain you will find nothing but myself pervading the entire expanse.

He, who realises this aspect of mine, is the one who knows the reality and is free from the contagion of differentiation between high and low and the likewise in the world.

The Brahman, its metamorphosis in the several manifestations, these manifestations pervading the individuals, are all taken to be the same entity by such a person who has attained the height of realisation in its entirety.

Beyond all doubts, there can be no two opinions about the perfection of such a person who has achieved ultimate success in the pursuit of this type of being in tune with the Infinite. He, who is devoted to me

with such undifferentiated insight is the one for whom I exert to see that his devotion continues uninterrupted.

Hence this devotional approach with undifferentiated insight is beyond doubt the uninterrupted correct path, and even if the seeker happens to come to a standstill in his pursuit, it would be all for the best as has already been at length explained in the 6th Chapter. If you are curious to know how this undifferentiated insight is achieved, please listen to what I say ahead.

अह सर्वस्य प्रभवः मत्तः सर्वं प्रवर्तते ।
इति मत्वा भजन्ते मां बुधा भाव समन्विताः ॥
जे जे भेटे भूत । ते ते मानिजे भगवत ॥
हा भक्तियोगु निश्चित । जाण माझा ।

I am the origin of all beings in the world; and Everything proceeds from me Inspired or Infused with this fundamental understanding, the real seers with their intuition or insight riveted on my manifestations, offer themselves as an oblation to me with intense devotion Devotional approach to me consists entirely in the firm belief that whatever being appears ahead is nothing but the personification of the Providence or the Absolute Substratum.

मन्विता मन्दतप्राणा बोधयन्त परस्परम् ।
कथयन्तश्च मानित्यं तुष्यन्ति चरमन्ति च ॥
जैश्रीजवळिकेची सरोवरे । उचबळलिया कालवती परस्परे ।
मग तरंगासिधबळारे । तरंगविहोनी ॥

The seers or these mystics with their minds riveted on me, with their very life force pinned on me, communicating with each other as filled in with my fervour and incessantly relating to one another all sorts of tales about my prowess, find intense delight in me and are satiated to over-flowing with my omnipresence.

As for instance any two adjoining lakes over-flowing with torrents of rain-showers, meet one another and form a united expanse of water, with surges one upon the other, rising high up in the air, the surges themselves forming as a base for the higher ones serially up in the open sky.

तेव्हां तया महामुखावेनिभरे । धावोनिदेहाविषा गावाबाहेरे ।
मिग घाले तेणे उद्गारे । लागती गाजो ॥

Similarly when such mystics and seers meet one another in the intense heat of enthusiasm & forgetting for the time-being their respective encasement in the body cover, begin to extol my omnipresence themselves being thoroughly satiated to over-flowing over-flowing with my fervour, passion and tremendous vitality.

सेपा सतत युवत्ताना भजता प्रीतिपूर्वक ।
ददामि बुद्धियोग तं येन मा मुपयान्ति ते ।

"In the case of such mystics and seers who have been unceasingly devoted to him with intense affection & love says the Lord, He stands voluntarily as

a guide to them and leads them on until at they last merge in the Absolute Brahman "

" Or He voluntarily offers to be a guide to them so as to lead them on until at last they merge in the Absolute Brahman.

तेषामेवानुक्तं पारमहंसजान जंतमः ।

नाशयाम्यात्मभावस्थो ज्ञानदीपेन भास्वता ॥

Besides, says the Lord, He himself dispels the veil of Ignorance enveloping these mystics, out of pure compassion for their uplift, with the help of the selfluminous refulgent rays of light proceeding from him.

तथा तत्त्वज्ञाचोखटा । दीधीपोतासाची सुभटा ।

मगमीचि ह्येवोनि दिवटा । पुढा पुढा चाले ॥

Then the Lord says, the Lord himself stands as a torch-bearer in the case of such mystics and seers and holds up his own self-luminous and refulgent torch before them.

At these words of Assurance from the Lord Shri Krishna, Arjuna replies as under:-

परब्रह्मपरंधाम पवित्रं परमंभवान् ।

पुरुष शास्वतं दिव्यमादिदेवं अजं विभुम् ॥१२॥

आहुस्त्वामुपयः सर्वे देवयिनरिदस्तथा ।

असितो देवलोव्यासः स्वयंचैव ब्रवीमि मे ॥१३॥

Oh Lord, says Arjuna, the mighty sages and seers of the past including Narad, Deval and Vyas,

have been ever since describing you in one voice, as the ultimate final Abode as the Absolute Substratum called the Brahman, as the ever-lasting entity, as the ever-luminous immutable over-lord and now I find you yourselves have been confirming their dictum.

सर्वं मेतदुक्तं मन्ये यन्मावदसिकेशव ।

नहि ते भगवन् व्यक्ति विदुर्देवान दानवाः ॥१४॥

स्वयमेवात्मनात्मानं वेत्स्य त्व पुरुषोत्तम ।

भूतभावन भूतेषा देवदेव जगत्पते ॥१५॥

वक्तुमर्हस्यशेषेण दिव्यात्मात्मविभूतयः ।

याभिर्विभूतिभिर्लोकानिमांस्त्व व्याप्यतिष्ठसि ॥१६॥

'Oh my Lord', says Arjuna "I am convinced within myself regarding the veracity of your version and I feel sincerely that neither the Gods nor the demons could ever grasp the extent of your prowess.

Oh Lord, you are the creator of the Universe and are as well the Overlord of the same, and hence it is that you alone (and none-else) are really aware of the entire extent of your prowess.

Be kind, therefore, to explain to me your various manifestations with which you have enveloped the entire creation. With these solicitations on the part of Arjuna the Lord was pleased to narrate to him his manifestations. It is not our purpose here to enumerate all the manifestations of the Lord as detailed in the succeeding verses of the 10th Chapter.

It is enough when it has been convincingly proved that the/Doctrine of manifestations like रसोऽहमप्सु & c. as adumbrated in verses Nos. 8, 9, 10 and 11 of the 7th. Chapter has been elucidated in the 10th. Chapter.

However we take the last four verses of the 10th. Chapter and close this discourse on the Manifestations.

यच्चऽपि सर्वं भूतानां बाज तदहमजुन ।
 न तदस्तिविनायत्स्यान्मया भूतंचराचरम् ॥३९॥
 नान्तोऽस्ति ममदिव्यानां विभूतीनां परंतप ।
 एषतूद्देशतः प्रोक्तो विभूतेर्विस्तरोमया ॥४०॥
 यद्यद्विभूतिमत् सत्त्वंश्रीमद्वर्जितमेववा ।
 तत्तदेवावगच्छत्वं ममतेजोऽसंभवम् ॥४१॥
 अयवावहुनैतेन किं ज्ञातेन तवार्जुन ।
 विष्टभ्याहमिदं कृत्स्न मेकांशेनस्थितो जगत् ॥४२॥

The Lord says ' I am the origin of all the beings in the world or for the matter of that there is nothing moveable or immoveable in the world which has not sprung up from me. My Divine manifestations have no end at all. I have narrated to you just a few to impress you the entire extent of my manifestations.

Wherever you find any being of outstanding glory brilliance or power, know ye that to be the manifestation of the radiant rays of my refulgence.

Enough of this prolonging or rather unending description. Suffice it to say that I have pervaded the

entire Universe with only a single ray of my radiant refulgence.

Enough of this prolonging or rather unending description. Suffice it to say that I have pervaded the entire Universe with only a single ray of my radiant refulgence.

Here ends Chapter IX



CHAPTER X

Now we come to verses Nos. 12 and 13 of the 7th Chapter which set forth the Doctrine of the three Gunas or qualities, which are inherent in the very nature of the Prakruti or Illusion or Maya itself, which is called the Universe. And this Prakruti in turn is but another form of the Purusha himself, attending upon him as his shadow. And the Purusha is nothing but the Infinite Brahman itself. Thus the Purusha himself appears to have undergone metamorphosis and assumed the form of the Universe or the creation.

ये चैव सात्त्विका भावा राजसास्तामसाश्च ये ।
मत्त एवेति तान्विद्धि न त्वहं तेषु ते मयि ॥१२॥
त्रिभिर्गुणमयैर्भावैरेभिः सर्वमिदं जगत् ।
मोहितं नाभिजानाति मामेभ्यः परमव्ययम् ॥१३॥

" All the various forms of creation consisting of the three Gunas or qualities viz. the Sattva, Rajas and Tamas, have sprung up from me " says the Lord. However, know ye that the forms are included in me, whereas I remain quite aloof from them or am not contained in them.

The entire Universe is plunged in confusion, due to the forms of existence constituted by the three Gunas, and hence is not able to realise my presence,

who stands beyond them i.e. the three Gunas and is immutable.

Now the whole of the Chapter No 14 is exclusively devoted to the description of the three Gunas and is entitled as : गुणत्रय विभाग योगोनाम चतुर्दशोऽध्यायः ।

We shall have a short survey of this chapter before we proceed to the next verse No 14 of the 7th chapter which is styled as the river of Illusion and illustrated in chapter No. 15 as the tree of Unreality.

The Lord says—

परं भूयः प्रवक्ष्यामि ज्ञानानां ज्ञानमुत्तमम् ।

यज्ज्ञात्वा मुनयः सर्वे परा सिद्धिमितो गताः ॥१४/१२॥

“ Once again ” says the Lord do I explain to you the essence of the ultimate real knowledge, which has enabled all the sages to ascend to the highest goal or destination.

Hear also we find the significant adverb Bhuyas (again) particularly intended to connote that the whole chapter is an explanation of the Doctrine adumbrated in verses Nos. 12 and 13 of the 7th chapter.

इदं ज्ञानमुपाश्रित्य मम साधर्म्यमागताः ।

सर्वेऽपि नोपजायन्ते प्रलये न व्यथन्ति च ॥१२॥

Having realised this aspect of mine, they have established their identity with me. And hence, they are neither born at the time of creation, nor do they suffer destruction at the time of the deluge.

Commenting on this verse the Saint says as under

सृष्टीचिये सर्वादी । जयां देहाची नाही बांधी ।

ते कैचे प्रलयावधो । निमतील पां ॥

मग म्हणे गा प्रज्ञाकांता । उजवली आजि वक्तृत्वता ।

जे बोला येवढा श्रोता । जोडलासी ॥

तरी एकु मी अनेकी । गोविंजे देहपासकी ॥

त्रिगुणी लुब्धकी । कवणेपरी ॥

कैसा क्षेत्रयोगें । वियें इये जगे ॥

ते परिस सांगे । कवणेपरी ॥

पै क्षेत्र येणे व्याजे । यालागी हे बोलिजे ॥

जे मत्संगबीजे भूती पिके ॥ १४-६६ ॥

It is but natural that those, who are not entangled in the Humane Frame at the beginning of the Universe, can never experience dissolution at the time of the great deluge.

Then the Lord says to Arjuna ' I have found in you a fitting listener or companion to my eloquent address; I mean an enlightened audience to my eloquent speech. Please listen how these vultures in the form of three Gunas have very successfully encased me in the several human frames so as to appear manifold, though I am a compact and undivided unit or uniform substance. Please listen further how the world or creation owes its existence to the display of the Maya or Illusion, I am disposed to style my Prakruti as the field from where have sprung up the beings in the world as the result of my own contact with the Prakruti.

मम योनिर्महद्ब्रह्म तस्मिन्गर्भे दधाम्यहम् ।

संभवः सर्वभूतानां ततो भवति भारत ॥३॥

The Primordial nature or Prakruti is my consort wherein I deposit myself to be born of her. All the beings in the world spring up from this contact of mine with the primordial nature or Prakruti.

This primordial nature is styled as Mahat-Brahma. Some style it as something not manifested or formless. The Sankhyas call it as Prakruti. The Vedantins hold it as Maya or Illusion. And finally it is after all nothing but Ignorance.

आपला आपणपेया । विसरु जो का धनंजया ॥
तेचि रूप यया । अज्ञानासी ॥

And Ignorance materialised is self-forgetfulness personified.

आणिकही एक असे । जे विचारावेळे न दिसे ।
वाती पाहता जैसे । अधारे कां ॥
हालविलिया जाय । निश्चळी तरी होय ।
बुघी जैसे साय । दुघाची ते ॥

One more aspect of this Ignorance is that it is no longer discernible when the reason is at work, just as darkness vanishes when there is light. Just as cream when stirred up dissolves in the milk underneath, where as it gathers up in a mass when left undisturbed.

पैल खांयु कां पुरुषु । ऐसा निश्चयो नाही एकु ।
परि काय नेणों आलोकु । दितव असे ॥

ऐसी कोन्ही एकी दशा । तिये वादु अज्ञान ऐसा ।
तया गुंडलिया प्रकासा । क्षेत्रज्ञ नाम ।

When seen from a distance, we cannot exactly guess whether the substance appearing is the stem of a tree or a human being standing. This doubtful condition is characterised as Ignorance and the inner light or spiriton which is hidden from view by the enveloping Ignorance is designated as the tenant residing in the frame for the time being.

अज्ञान थोरिये आणिजे । आपणये तरी नेणिजे ।
तें रूप जाणिजे । क्षेत्रज्ञाचे ।

The main function of this Tenant is to elevate Ignorance to prominence and remain ignorant regarding his own condition, or about himself, his own self.

तेवि लचकलिया दिठी । मग देखगे जे जे उठी ।
तया नामसुष्टी । मोवि विये ।

When the vision is blurred, whatever appears before it, is designated as the creation or the world and the world in turn is but my own creation.

तरी माझी हे गृहिणी । अनादि तरणी ॥
अनिर्वाच्य गुणी । अविद्या हे ।

My Prakruti is my consort and she is ever young without any beginning and with qualities which surpass description and is styled as Ignorance.

हये माही हेचि रूप । टाणे हे अति उमर ।
हे निद्रितागमीय । बेजादुरी ॥

Void of any type of form is here form, her location is beyond description. She keeps company with the Ignorant and avoids those who are real seers. Formlessness is her form; or rather she assumes infinite forms. Her activity is endless. She keeps company with or befriends the ignorant and avoids those that are real seers. She Keeps awake when I am asleep and my presence alone is enough for her to conceive and give birth to the eight-fold Foetus in the form of "the Intellect, the mind, the ego and the five elements. And this Foetus which embodies the three gunas split up in the four-fold creation viz.

मणिज्जम्बूदेज उद्भिज्ज and जारज ।

सर्वं योनिपुत्रैस्तैश्च मूलैः संभवन्ति याः ।

तासां ब्रह्म महद्योनिः अहं बीजप्रदः पिता ॥४॥

In the case of the fourfold creation, for all the visible manifestations, the Mahat-Brahma or Prakruti is the Substratum or consort wherein I deposit the requisite seeds for germination.

सत्त्वं रजस्तम इति गुणाः प्रकृतिसंभवाः ।

निबध्नन्ति महाबाहो देहे देहिनमव्ययम् ॥५॥

All the three Gunas viz. सत्त्वं, रजस् and तमस् owe their origin to the Prakruti; and it is through their influence that the tenant or the spiriton or the householder identifies himself with the Body-frame which he inhabits for the time being.

तत्र सत्त्वं निर्मलत्वात् प्रकाशकमनामयम् ।

सुखसंगेन बध्नाति ज्ञानसंगेन चानघ ॥ ६ ॥

and out of these three attributes the Satva which is transparent, refulgent and unalloyed attracts the inhabitant with its pleasing contact coupled with cunning and entices him to feel that he is one with the external body cover.

रजोगात्मकं विद्धि मोहनं सर्वदेहिनाम् ।

प्रमादालस्यनिद्राभिस्तन्निबध्नाति भारत ॥ ७

The attribute of Rajas, – the off spring of greed and attachment or affection-entangles the inhabitant in the body cover and inspires him for unceasing activities.

तमस्त्वज्ञानजं विद्धि मोहनं सर्वदेहिनाम् ।

प्रमादालस्यनिद्राभिस्तन्निबध्नाति भारत ॥ १४-८ ॥

The attribute of Tamas-the off-spring of Ignorance causes infatuation to the inhabitants and fetters them to body-cover by over-powering them with sleep, lethargy and mis deeds.

The foregoing three attributes which are ever inherent in the Prakruti are at times mild, wakeful, powerful or even aggressive according to the opportunity offered to them by the Individuals and hence by permutation and combination we find various types of beings in the world. When any one of these qualities gets the upperhand and becomes aggressive, the others have to remain submissive awaiting their chance to get the upperhand. And thus we get this diversity of temperament in the entire world creation.

कर्मणः सुकृतस्याहुः सात्त्विकं निर्मलं फलम् ।

रजसस्तु फलं दुःखमज्ञानं तमसः फलम् ॥ १६ ॥

Good actions are said to yield very happy and agreeable results as proceeding from the Satva Attribute. The results of Rajas are exceedingly agonising and painful and those of Tamas are horrible amounting to absolute Ignorance.

सत्वात्सजायते ज्ञानं रजसो लोभ एव च ।

प्रमादमोहो तमसो भवतोऽज्ञानमेव च ॥ १७ ॥

When the Satva dominates, it results in pure knowledge. The domination of Rajas results in avarice. Infatuation mis-directed actions are the outcome of the Tamas-domination.

उर्ध्वं गच्छन्ति सत्त्वस्था मध्ये तिष्ठन्ति राजसाः ।

जघन्यगुणदृतिस्था अधो गच्छन्ति तामसाः ॥ १४-१८ ॥

Those possessing the Satwa quality, when they pass away find their seats in the Heavens. The Rajas are born on the Earth as human beings, whereas the Tamas, when they die find their abode in the Hell.

नान्य गुणेभ्यः कर्तारं यदाद्रष्टानुपश्यति ।

गुणेभ्यश्च परवेति मद्भावं सोऽधिगच्छति ॥-१९

Then the real seer experiences that the authorship of his activities is directed by the three gunas and actually observes himself as aloof from the gunas; he alone realises his identity with me the Overlord of the entire Universe.

गुणानेतानतीत्य श्रीन्देही देहसमुद्भवान् ।
जन्ममृत्युजरादुःखैर्विमुक्तोऽमृतमश्नुते ॥ १४-२० ॥

By transgressing the magnetic field of action or attraction of the three Gunas, which are themselves the product of the Human frame, occupied by the tenant for the time being, the tenant thus escapes the agonies of birth, death and oldage and enjoys eternal bliss.

Arjuna over-powered by these words of the Lord, naturally asks him as to the way and the means to transgress the action of the three Gunas.

कैलिंगेस्त्रीगुणानेतानतीतो भवति प्रभो ।
किमाचारः कथं चेतांस्त्रीगुणानतिवर्तते ॥ २१ ॥

Arjuna requests the Lord to explain the signs of recognition for the person if he has thus transgressed the field of action of the three Gunas, the nature of his activities as also the ways and means adopted by him to achieve the end.

The Lord in reply states as under—

प्रकाशं च प्रवृत्तिं च मोहमेव च पाद्व्य ।
न द्वेष्टि संप्रवृत्तानि न निवृत्तानि काङ्क्षति । २२ ॥

Such a person, says the Lord, bears no hatred towards the three Gunas viz the Satwa, Rajas and Tamas, when they manifest themselves in the form of the light of knowledge, the urge for action or the state of infatuation, respectively, nor does he wish for their inaction or disappearance.

उदासीनवदासीनो गुणैर्यो न विचाल्यते ।

गुणा वर्तन्त इत्येव योज्यतिष्ठति नेङ्गते ॥ २३ ॥

समदुःखसुखः स्वस्थः समलोष्टाश्मकाचनः ।

तुल्यप्रियाप्रियो धीरस्तुल्यनिदात्मसंस्तुतिः ॥ २४ ॥

मानापमानयोस्तुल्यस्तुल्यो मित्रारिपक्षयोः ।

सर्वारंभपरित्यागी गुणातीतः स उच्यते ॥ २५ ॥

As a spectator, he is not disturbed by the activities of the three Gunas. And with the firm conviction that all his activities are the play of the Gunas, he remains quite unmoved. He is the person beyond the magnetic influence of the three gunas, who looks on pleasure and pain, a lump of mud or a lump of gold, with the same indifference.

Further his courage is steady towards his likes or dislikes, towards honour or dishonour, towards any expressions of praise or slander.

All the same he remains unconcerned towards any friends or foes and maintains perfect renunciation or detachment even from the beginning of any undertaking.

Hereafter the Lord explains the means to achieve the end of transgressing the magnetic field of the three gunas.

मा च योज्यमिचारेण भक्तियोगेन सेवते ।

स गुणान्समतीर्येतान्ब्रह्मभूयाय कल्पते ॥ २६ ॥

ब्रह्मणो हि प्रतिष्ठाऽहममृतस्याव्ययस्य च ।

दास्यतस्य च धर्मस्य सुखस्यैकान्तिकस्य च ॥ २४-२७ ॥

He who serves me with one-pointed devout devotion (which is one-pointed only) is able to transcend the magnetic field of action of the three gunas and thus finds his speedy way towards the attainment of Self realisation.

Here says the Lord, please do not, even for a moment, be led to believe that devout devotion to me is only the means and self realisation is the end or the goal, because the means in itself is the end to be achieved. Because, I, says the Lord, though serving as the means am the very foundation or support of the Brahman, which is immutable, imperishable and likewise the fountain of Eternal law, Bliss and happiness.

Here ends Chapter X

CHAPTER XI

दैवी ह्येषा गुणमयी मम माया दुरत्यया ।

मामेव ये प्रपद्यन्ते मायामेतां तरन्ति ते ॥ ७-१४ ॥

This Divine river of the illusion of mine consisting of the three gunas is very difficult to transgress. those alone that adhere steadfastly unto me can cross this river in floods or ocean of Illusion.

आतां महदादि हे माझी माया । उत्तरोनियां घनंजया ।

मी होइजे हें आया । कैसेनि ये ? ॥ ७-१८ ॥

The Lord says to Arjuna, please listen how one can cross this flood of Phantasy or illusion of mine consisting of Mahat and other elements and finally approach me as the destination or goal.

Now this flood of Illusion is expounded in detail as the Ashwath tree in the 15th Chapter and the way is shown therein how to overcome this impediment of the enormous growth of the tree up and down and ultimately be identified with me.

कळनि संसारदायो । स्वरूपी अहते ठावो ।

होआवया अध्यावो । पंघरावा ॥

The Saint herein gives the purpose of the 15th chapter with respect to the Human beings in particular. Realising the nature of the worldly existence

to be a mere Phantasy and finding for the Individual Ego eternal solace in the original abode viz. the Brahman, is the purpose of the 15th Chapter.

While discussing the characteristic features of the Ashwath tree, the Saint states as under in the same words which have been used in the 7th chapter for the crossing of the river of Illusion.

एवं महद्बुद्धि । मनं महामूतसमृद्धि ।
 इये संसारचिया अवधी । शासन जे । १५-१०५
 किवहुना इहीं आठें । आगी हा अधिक फाटे ।
 परी शिपीधियेवढें उमटे । रुपें जेवीं ॥ १५-१०६
 का समुद्राचेनि पैसारे । यरी तरंगता आसारे ।
 तैसें ब्रह्मचि होय वृक्षाफारें । अज्ञानमूढ ॥ १५-१०७

In short these eight factors viz Mahat, Egoism, mind and the five elements constitute the composite Ashwath tree in the form of the world And this tree grows as vigorously and to the extent which these eight factors permit, and not more. Just as silver appears only to the extent of the mother of pearls and not more or just as the extent of the ripples does not exceed the surface of the ocean; similarly, due to ignorance the Brahman itself appears in the form of this world tree

उद्यमस्य मया साधनमस्तु ।
साधयामि मां यथा शक्तिः मे भवेत् ॥ १५-१

The tree in the form of this world or Universe is described as under:-

It has roots up in the high and shoots down below, it is or it appears to be everlasting and yet it is not the same for any two consecutive days and the Vedas are its foliage. And he alone can be locked upon as realising the spirit of the Vedas, who can thoroughly grasp the aforesaid features of this tree.

अधश्चोर्ध्वं प्रसृतास्तस्य शाखा । गुणप्रवृद्धा विषयप्रवालाः

अधश्च मूलान्यनुसंततानि । कर्मानुबन्धीनि मनुष्यलोके ॥ १५-२

The branches of this world tree shoot upwards as well as downwards and have the exuberance of their growth due to the emanation of the three gunas within themselves i. e. the branches and resulting in the generation of the sense objects.

All the same this world tree bears roots downwards also as well as it has them upwards in the order of succession such as the one proceeding from the other and in the case of the human beings the preceding generation giving rise to the succeeding one according to the fruits of the actions performed.

न रूपमस्येह तपोपलभ्यते नान्तो न चादिर्न च संप्रतिष्ठा ।

अद्वयमेव मुनिन्दमूलमसद्वयसत्त्वेण दृढेन छित्त्वा ॥ १५-३

The inherent nature of its form, neither its beginning nor its end nor its stable condition can possibly be observed. And therefore we can proceed on the onward journey by cutting asunder the dense growth of its thickened roots, with the sharpened

weapons of non-attachment and the sword of knowledge.

Now दैवी होषा गुणमयी मम माया is the 7th Chapter. अधश्चोर्ध्वं प्रसृतास्तस्य शाखाः गुणप्रवृद्धा विषयप्रवालाः । is the 15th Chapter- गुणमयी मम माया = तस्य शाखाः गुण प्रवृद्धाः विषयप्रवालाः ।

विषयप्रवालाः = &c &c

ततः पदं तत् परिमार्गितव्यं is the onward march in the journey

After this the Lord says — यस्मिन् गताननिवर्तन्ति भूयः । When they reach this goal they do not again return to the cycle of births and deaths.

तमेवचाद्यं पुरुषं प्रपद्ये । यतः प्रवृत्तिः प्रसृता पुराणी ॥

They reach the eternal original home of the Brahman, whence has sprung up the creation in the form of this Universe.

मग इदंतेसि बाळलें । जें मोपणेंवीण डाहारले ॥
 ते रूप पाहिजे आपले । आपणची ॥ १५-२६७ ॥
 परी दर्पणाचेनि आधारें । एकचि करुनि दुसरे ।
 मुख पाहाती गव्हारे । तैसे नको हो ! ॥
 हे पाहाणे ऐसें असे वीरा । जैसा न बोडलिया विहिरा ।
 मग आपलिया उगमी झरा । भरोनि ठाके ॥
 नातरी आटलिया अम । निजबिंबां प्रतिबिंब ।
 निहटे का नमी नभ । पटाभायो ॥
 नाना इधनांनु सरलेया । बहि परते जेवी आपणपया ।
 तैसे आपोआप घनजया । न्याहाळणे जें गा ।
 जिहटे आपली चयी पातणे । यस्तु निज बुवूळ देतणे ।
 आहे तया ऐसें निरीक्षणें ! आपुणे ॥ १५-२७२ ॥

When the tree of unreality has been cut asunder by the sword of self-knowledge, then one is able to see one's own form, one's own self. This is however not like the reflection in a mirror, for the reflection in a mirror is the face of one who looks at it. (This is just like seeing one's own face without the mirror.)

The vision of the Individual Self is as a spring which exists in its place even when the well is not dug up.

When water dries up, the image goes back to its prototype. When a pitcher is broken up, space mixes with space. When fuel is burnt, fire returns unto itself. In a similar way is the vision of the self by the self. One must see without seeing. The tongue should taste itself. The eye should see its own eye-ball. In a similar way is the vision of the self by the self.

In this way Chapter 15 in continuation elaborately deals with the Doctrine of Maya or Illusion, as adumbrated in the 7th Chapter. It is not our object here to deal with the 15th Chapter in its entirety. It is enough if it is so far conclusively proven that the Illusion of the world in the 7th Chapter is the same as the tree of unreality in the 15th Chapter.

CHAPTER XII

नमोऽदुष्टकृतिनी मूढाः प्रपद्यन्ते नराधमाः ।

माययाऽपहृतज्ञाना आसुरभाव माश्रिताः ॥ ७-१५

The meanest of the Human Race, who are ignorant and ever prone to do evil acts can never find any access to me. And the devilish tendencies find their easy way straight unto them as they are deprived of their reasoning faculty by the Influence of the Maya.

Now the Influence of Maya on the reasoning faculty and the effects of being over-powered by the Devilish Tendencies as against the Divine qualities according to circumstances etc. etc. form the subject matter of the 16th chapter which runs as under :-

अभय सत्य सद्बुद्धिः ज्ञानयोग ध्यवस्थितिः ।
दान दमश्च यज्ञश्च स्वाध्यायस्तप आर्जवम् ॥ १६-१
अहिंसा सत्यम क्रोध. त्याग. शान्तिरपैगुणम् ।
दयाभूतेष्व लोभुष्य मार्दवंही रचायलम् ॥ २॥
तेज. क्षमा धृतिः शीघ्रमद्रोहो मानिमानिता ।
भवन्ति सप्तदर्शो मभिजातस्य भारत ॥ ३॥

The Lord says to Arjuna, please listen :-

The following are the characteristics of the person endowed with a Divine Nature

Divine qualities,' says the Lord, have been time and again elucidated in the foregoing chapters and hence he exhorts Arjuna to listen to the Devilish tendencies and their consequences, only thereafter.

आतां आसुरी जे सृष्टी । तेथिची उपलळं गोठी ।
 अवधानाची दिठी । दे पां निकी ॥
 तरी बाह्येवीण नादु । नेदी कवणाही सादु ॥
 कां अपुष्पी मकरदु । न लभे जैसा ॥
 तैसी प्रकृति हे आसुर । एकली नोहे गोचर ॥
 जंव एकाधें शरीर । मात्हातीना ॥
 मग आविष्करला लांकुडें । पावकु जैसा जोडे ।
 तैसी प्राणिदेही सांपडे । आटोपली हे ॥
 ते वेळी जे वाढी उंसा । तेचि आंनुला रसा ॥
 देहाकारु होय तैसा । प्राणिमात्रा ॥
 आता तयाचि प्राण्यां । रूप करु धनजया ।
 घडले जे आसुरीया । दोषबुदी ॥
 प्रवृत्ति च निवृत्ति च जना न विदुरासुराः ।
 न शौच नापि चाचारो न सत्य तेषु विद्यते ॥

Just as a musical instrument is necessary to produce a musical sound or just as there can be no fragrance in the absence of any flowers, similarly the Devilish tendencies will be apparent or visible only when they form their association with a human frame.

Just as fire produced from the fuel, envelopes the entire wood in course of time, similarly the Devilish tendencies when once they catch hold of any human frame, they go on increasing along with the

growth of the Human frame, like the co-extensive growth of the sugar cane and the crystals of sugar contained within the frame.

Thereafter, says the Lord, he would narrate the features of the Devilish tendencies developing in the Human frame.

These devils, says the Lord, do not know in right earnest the principles of activism nor those of Renunciation, nor do they possess any truthfulness nor any righteous path to follow nor any purity of conduct.

अमत्यमप्रतिष्ठं ते जगदाहुरनीश्वरम् ।
 अपरस्परमभूत किमन्यत्कामहेतुकम् ॥
 एता दृष्टिमवष्टभ्य नष्टात्मानोऽल्पबुद्धयः ।
 प्रभवन्त्युग्रकर्माणिः क्षयाय जगतोऽहिताः ॥
 काममाश्रित्य दुष्पूर दम्भमानमदान्विताः ।
 मोहाद्गृहीत्वाऽसद्ग्राहान्प्रवर्तन्तेऽशुचिरताः ॥
 चिन्तामपरिमेयां च प्रलयान्तामुपाश्रिताः ।
 कामोपभोगपरमा एतावदिति निश्चिताः ॥
 भासापाशतैर्वन्दा, कामश्रोष्ठपरायणाः ।
 ईहन्ते कामभोगार्थान्भायेनार्थसंचयान् ॥

The tenets of their philosophy are that:

The creation of the world stands without any controller or author, without any foundation and full of untruth. It originates without any causal relationship between the objects of creation, the predominating force being nothing else than lust for the

entire creation. With this angle of vision, these destroyers of their own self, with their narrow-mindedness, prevail in bringing about the destruction of the Universe on the strength of their horrifying activities.

Resorting to insatiable lust, and over-powered by feelings of ostentation, pride and arrogance, they are ever prone to commit ugly actions, possessed as they stand with obstinate and perverted intentions.

Involved in countless anxieties lasting till the dissolution of the world, hypnotized with the firm conviction that the gratification of their desires is the only one and the highest aim in their life, entangled in thousands of net-works of expectations, with lust and wrath as their springs of action and/exclusively for the gratification of their desires, they stand ever prone to commit unlawful acts to amass fortune.

इदमद्य मया लब्धमिमं प्राप्न्ये मनोरथम् ।

इदमस्तोदमपि मे भविष्यति पुनर्धनम् ॥

यतो मया हतः शत्रुर्हनिष्ये चापरानपि ।

ईश्वरोऽहमहं भोगी सिद्धोऽहं बलशम्भुर्भो ॥

आदृष्टोऽभिजनवानस्मि दोऽयोऽस्ति मनुजो मया ।

यक्ष्ये दास्यामि मोक्षिष्ये ह्यव्यक्तानिर्मोहिताः ॥

अनेकचित्तविघ्नान्ना मोहजालमयावृता ।

प्रसवता कामभागेषु पतन्ति मरवेऽनुभो ॥

This much is my earning this day, that much shall be my fortune tomorrow. Though this much is my fortune to-day, it is bound to be extensive in days to come To-day I have done away with this

enemy, several others will meet the same fate in time I am the over-lord of all and am the only person to enjoy the same. Success is mine. I personify all strength and happiness. Or I am the embodiment of all success, strength and happiness. I am affluent, my parentage is distinguished. I have no rival, performing sacrifices and bestowing donations. I stand for enjoyment. Deluded by such mistaken notions, disturbed by manifold designs, enveloped in snares of infatuation and exclusively devoted to the gratification of their senses, they allow themselves to be drowned in Infernal Hell.

आत्मसंभाविताः स्तब्धाः घनमानमदान्विताः ।

यजन्ते नामयज्ञैस्ते दम्भेनाविधिपूर्वकम् ॥

अहंकारं बलं दर्पं कामं क्रोधं च सञ्चिताः ।

मामात्मपरदेहेषु प्रद्विपन्तोऽभ्यसूयकाः ॥

तानहं द्विपतः क्रूरान्संसारेषु नराधमान् ।

क्षिपाभ्यजस्रमशुभानासुरीष्वेव योनिषु ॥

आसुरी योनिमाप्ता मूढा जन्मनि जन्मनि ।

मामप्राप्यैव कौन्तेय ततो यान्त्यधमां गतिम् ॥

Proud and self-conceited, obstinate and glorying in their own affluence, pride and arrogance, perform sacrifices no doubt yet for name-sake only with all ostentation and in violation of the procedure prescribed.

Intoxicated with egoism coupled with power, pride, lust and wrath such evil-actors feel extreme hatred for me, who resides in their own body-covers as well as well as in those of others.

These haters of mine, cruel and unclean as they stand, the scum of mankind, I hurl them down continually amongst the worldly categories especially amongst the dévilish ones.

Entangled in the cycle of births and deaths of the Devilish categories, these lowly creatures, life in and life out, ever fail to reach me and ultimately sink into still more miserable condition.

त्रिविधं नरकस्येद द्वारं नाशनमात्मनः ।
 कामः क्रोधस्तया लोभस्तस्मादेतत्त्रय त्यजेत् ॥
 एषैविमुक्तः कोन्तेय तमोद्वारंस्त्रिभिर्नरः ।
 आचरत्यात्मनः श्रेयस्ततो याति परा गतिम् ॥
 यः शास्त्रविधिमुत्सृज्य वर्तते कामकारतः ।
 न स सिद्धिमवाप्नोति न सुखं न परा गतिम् ॥
 तस्माच्छास्त्रं प्रमाणं ते कार्याकार्यव्यवस्थितौ ।
 ज्ञात्वा शास्त्रविधानोक्तं कर्म कर्तुमिहाहं ॥

Lust, wrath and greed are the three gate-ways leading to the Hell for self-destruction. And one has to be very careful to avoid them. When once an Individual with-stands the temptation to enter these three gate-ways to Hell, he automatically exerts for his own uplift and ultimately secures eternal welfare.

However, when once an individual leaves aside the procedure prescribed by the Scriptures and wantonly follows his own sweet-will, he finds neither any success in his undertaking nor any happiness nor his eternal welfare.

Hence it is the Scriptures that ought to guide one in venturing on any activities or in desisting from them. You ought to undertake any activities only when you ascertain that they are prescribed by Scriptures.

Here ends the 16th chapter and the discussion of the Divins as well as Devilish tendencies.

Here ends Chapter XII



CHAPTER XIII

चातुर्विधा भजन्ते मां जनाः सुकृतिनाऽर्जुन ।
 आर्तो जिज्ञासुरर्थार्थी ज्ञानी च भरतवर्षभ ॥१६॥
 तेषां ज्ञानी नित्ययुक्त एकभक्तिविरिष्यते ।
 प्रियो हि ज्ञानिनोऽन्यथमहं स च मम प्रियः ॥१७॥
 उदाराः सर्वे एवैते ज्ञानी त्वात्मैव मे मतम् ।
 आस्थितः स हि युक्तात्मा मामेवानुत्तमां गतिम्
 बहुनां जन्ममामन्ते ज्ञानवान्मां प्रपद्यते ।
 वासुदेवः सर्वमिति स महात्मा सुदुर्लभः ॥१९॥

Amongst those that are prone to do righteous actions, there are four types of persons, who are devoted to me. And they are, says the Lord to Arjuna, the afflicted, the curious, the needy and lastly the genuine-seekers after truth. Amongst this lot, the last type viz. the men of knowledge or wisdom or the genuine seekers after truth, is preferred to be the best. Because there is mutual relationship of extreme love between us. All these are high souls no doubt; still the man of wisdom is my own prototype. Because, with his singleness of devotion, he finds solace nowhere else excepting in me.

Now the 12th Chapter is exclusively devoted to the devotion to the Lord. It runs as under—

Arjuna says to the Lord—

एवं सततयुक्ता ये भक्तास्त्वा पर्युपासते ।
 ये चाप्यनमस्कृत्य तेषां ते योद्धिताः ॥१॥

But before proceeding with this, it behoves us to refer to the 10th Chapter as under--.

The 10th Chapter is devoted to the various manifestations of the Absolute Infinite and the Lord, closes this chapter with the following verses.

यद्यद्विभूतिमत्सत्त्वं श्रीमदूर्जितमेव वा ।

तत्तदेवावगच्छ त्वं मम तेजोऽक्षसंभवम् ॥४१॥

अथवा बहुनैतेन किं ज्ञातेन तवार्जुन ।

विष्टेभ्याहमिदं कृत्स्नमेकांशेन स्थितो जगत् ॥

The Lord says to Arjuna :

Please be it known to you once for all that whatever appears to be of outstanding magnificence, or booming with high spirits at once bewitching the eye, has sprung up from only a portion of the Radiant Refulgence of my Divine Dispensation.

Or, enough of this lengthy description to know about. The entire Universe has sprung up from only a portion of my Infinite expanse.

Hereafter Arjuna becomes curious and anxious to know the intrinsic aspect of the Lord, the origin, the fundamental substance from where spring up the several Avataras, the Infinite Substratum called the Brahman. And the Lord manifested himself according as desired by the disciple.

Arjuna, however, could not see anything with his naked eye; the Lord, therefore, blessed him WITH

THE DIVINE INSIGHT that was necessary to have a vision of the entire show.

Arjuna was frightened at the sight of this Universal Aspect of the Lord and he entreated him off and on to assume his usual form which was very familiar to Arjuna.

However the Lord warned Arjuna that he need not be afraid of the Universal Aspect on the canvas of the sky, as-presented to him by the Lord, and warned him to get himself acquainted with that Aspect, rather than be content with the mild appearance of the Lord in front of his eyes.

After this discussion between the master and the disciple Arjuna takes the occasion to inquire which of the two should be the goal of the aspirant. And his question runs as under :

एव सततयुक्ता ये भक्तास्त्वां पर्युपासते ।
ये चाप्यक्षरमव्यक्तं तेषां के योगवित्तमाः ॥१॥

Arjuna enquires as to who are the real adepts in Yoga (Union with Brahman) between those devotees who serve the Lord with steadfast adherence and those that meditate on the invisible and immutable Infinite Absolute

मय्यावेश्य मनो ये मां नित्ययुक्ता उपासते ।
यद्वा परमोपासते मे युक्ततमा मताः ॥२॥
ये त्वक्षरमनिर्दोषमव्ययं पर्युपासते ।
सर्वत्रगमवित्त्वं च ब्रूयन्त्यस्य मे श्रुत्वा ॥३॥

सनियम्येन्द्रियग्राम सर्वत्र समबुद्धयः ।
 ते प्राप्नुवन्ति मामेव सर्वभूतहिते रताः ॥४॥
 क्लेशोऽधिकतरस्तेषामव्यक्तासक्तचेतसाम् ।
 अव्यक्ता हि गतिर्दुःख देहवद्भिरवाप्यते ॥५॥
 ये तु सर्वाणि कर्माणि मयि सन्त्यस्य मत्परा ।
 अनन्येनैव योगेन मा ध्यायन्त उपासते ॥६॥
 तेषामहं समुद्धर्ता मृत्युसंसारसागरात् ।
 भवामि न चिरात्पार्थ मय्यावेशितचेतसाम् ॥

Those that serve me with their mind intent upon me, with steadfast adherence and with utmost faith in me (those that serve me thus) are held by me as the adepts in Yoga. Those also who meditate on the invisible, absolute, immutable Brahman, which is all-pervading, unimaginable, real, steady and lying in the inner-most recesses, and at the same time, have all their senses under control and who look evenly on all objects, succeed in becoming in tune with me. However those meditating on the Invisible, have to subject themselves to severe hardships; for, these residing in the Human frame as they do, find it very hard to achieve salvation.

In the case of such persons, who resign all their activities unto me, who offer themselves as an oblation unto me and who serve me by meditating on me with unswerving devotion, I stand to rescue them from the ocean of births and deaths at no distant date, depending upon the quality of their steadfast devotion unto me.

In the case of such persons, who resign all their activities unto me, who offer themselves as an oblation unto me and who serve me by meditating on me with unswerving devotion; The Lord Says as under:—

मय्येव मन आधत्स्व मयि बुद्धि निवेशय ।
निवसिष्यसि मय्येव अत ऊर्ध्वं न संशयः ॥८॥

When your mind and intellect are riveted on me, take it from me, you will be thoroughly absorbed in me.

अगा मानस स हे एक माझ्या स्वरूपी वृत्तिक ।
करुनि घाली निष्टक बुद्धि निश्चयेसी ॥
इये दोनी सरिमी मजमाजी प्रेमेसी ।
रिगाली तरी पावसी माते तू गा ॥
जे मन बुद्धि इही घर केले माझ्या ठायी ।
तरी सागे मज काई मी तू ऐसे उरे ॥
म्हणोनी दीप पालवे सवेचि तेज मालवे ।
का रविबिद्यासवे प्रकाशु जाय ॥
उचललेया प्राणासरिखी इद्रियेही निगती जैसी ।
तैसा मनोबुद्धिपासी अहंकार ये ॥
म्हणोनि माझिया स्वरूपी मन बुद्धि इये निशेपी ।
येतुलेनि सवंब्यापी मीचि होसी ॥

The Lord says to Arjuna: You focuss your mind and intellect on my vision and when both these are moistened with the tears and perspiration, of love and affection, then automatically you will be dissolved in me. When both your mind and intellect choose to reside in me permanently, can we remain as separate

entities any longer? Just as when the current is switched off, light goes out automatically or rather when the sun sets, light disappears; when the controller of breath quits the human machine, all other senses have perforce to follow suit; similarly, when the mind goes with the intellect, the ego is compelled to give up its offensive and tentacular 'ism'; therefore, try to concentrate both mind and intellect on the vision of the Lord and then you will pervade the whole Universe and will be identified with me.

अयचित्त समाधातु न शक्नोपि मयिस्थिरम् ।

अभ्यासयोगेन ततो मामिच्छाप्तुं धनंजय ॥

अभ्यासेष्यसमर्थोऽसि मत्कर्मपरमो भव ।

मदर्थमपि कर्माणि कुर्वन् सिद्धिमवाप्स्यसि ॥

अथैतदप्यशक्तोऽसि कर्तुमद्योगमाश्रितः ।

सर्वकर्मफलत्यागं ततः कुरु यतात्मवान् ॥

If you cannot concentrate your mind on me, please try to have practice regarding the same and by slow degrees the mind will feel interested in me.

If you are not capable of this practice, please resign the duties you have discharged, unto God. When they are thus offered unto God, you will attain salvation. Even if you are not able to act up according to these injunctions, please exert your utmost to resign the fruits of all your duties discharged, unto God.

श्रेयो हि ज्ञानमभ्यासात् ज्ञानाद् ध्यानमविशिष्यते ।

ध्यानात् कर्मफलं त्यागं त्यागात् शान्तिरनन्तरम् ॥

Knowledge of the essentials is to be preferred to the study of concentration (carried on without proper insight). Meditation in the proper sense is to be preferred to knowledge, and resignation of the fruits of all your activities or duties discharged, is to be preferred to meditation and such resignation ultimately will lead to permanent peace or beatification.

Here-after from verses 13 to 19 we have the description of the real seers who have attained perfection, enumerating the various attributes of their several phases of activities. And lastly we have the advice, as under :

ये तु धर्म्यामृतमिदं यथोक्तं पर्युपामते ।
अद्धाना मत्परमा भवतास्तेऽतीवमेप्रियाः

The Lord says:-

I cherish intense love and affection for those devotees, who stick to these pious and nectar-like commandments, to a letter, and observe them with utmost faith and self-surrender.

Here ends the 12th Chapter.

CHAPTER XIV

Having referred to the path of devotion leading to ultimate Reality and having mentioned the four types of Devotees worshipping the Lord according to their inherent inclinations and according to their intensity of devotion, the Lord now refers to the common mass of humanity who are after their own comforts in life; and to achieve that end, go on worshipping minor deities which they expect to fulfil their desired ambitions

कामैस्तैस्तैर्हृतज्ञाना. प्रपद्यन्तेऽन्यदेवता.
 त त नियममास्थाय प्रकृत्या नियता स्वया ॥
 यो यो या या तनु भक्त श्रद्धयाऽर्चितुमिच्छति ।
 तस्य तस्याचला श्रद्धा तामेव विदधाम्यहम् ॥
 स तयाश्रद्धयायुक्त तस्याराधनमीहते ।
 लभने च तत कामान् मयैव विहितान् हि तान् ॥
 अन्तवत्सु फल तेषा तद्रूपयल्पमेघसाम् ।
 देवान्देवयजो यान्ति मद्रूपता यान्ति मामपि ॥

Those that have lost their reasoning faculty due to their various longings, take resort as per their own dispositions to minor deities and worship them according to their specific requirements.

The devotees with great faith worship the deities, presuming them to be appearing in a certain form And I, says the Lord, try to see that the faith

of the devotee is strengthened in worshipping the same deity.

The devotee with that strengthened faith worships the deity and receives the rewards which, says the Lord, are awarded by the Lord himself.

The rewards, however, in the case of these short-sighted persons are transitory. The devotees of the deities find their way to the respective deities; whereas those that worship me find their salvation in me, says the Lord.

अव्यक्तं व्यक्तिमापन्नं मन्यन्ते मामबुद्धयः ।
 परं भावमजानन्तो ममाध्यमनुत्तमम् ॥ २४ ॥
 नाहं प्रकाशः सर्वस्य योगमायासमावृतः ।
 मुढोऽयं नाभिजानाति लोको मामजमध्यमम् ॥ २५ ॥
 वेदाहं समतीतानि वर्तमानानि चार्जुन ।
 भविष्याणि च भूतानि मा तु वेद न कुरुते ॥ २६ ॥

The short-sighted individuals take me to have assumed a visible form though I am invisible; because they do not know my supreme nature, and that I am immutable and the highest of all. I am not visible to all. Enveloped and blinded by my Prakash or Maya the Illusion, as they are, the ignorant mass of humanity is not able to realise me, who am never born and am immutable. I know the past and the future. However no one can realise my existence.

After this the Lord explains in three verses the origin, the existence and the dissolution of the creation.

इच्छाद्वेषसमुत्थेन द्वदमोहेन भारत ।

सर्वभूतानि समोह सर्गे यान्ति परतप ॥

At the time of the creation all beings are enveloped in utter ignorance through the influence of opposites (like heat and cold) that are, the result of Desire and Hatred.

तरी तेचि आता षोडोसी । गोठी सांगिले परियेसी ।

जै अहकारा तनूसी । बालभ पडिले ॥

तेथ इच्छा हे कुमारी जाली । मग ते कामाचिया तारुण्य आली ।

तेथ द्वेषेसी माडिली ष-हाडिक ॥

तया दोषास्तव जन्मला । ऐसा द्वदमोहो जाला ।

मग तो आज्ञेयानें बाढविला । अहकारे ॥

जो घेतोसी सदा प्रतिकुळ । नियमाही नागवे सळु ।

आशारसें दोदिलु । जाला साता ॥

असनुष्टीचिया मदिरा । मत्त होऊनि धनुर्धरा ।

विषयाचे घोवरा । विकृतीसी ॥

तेणे भावगुदीचिये वाटे । बिखुरले विकल्पाचे काटे ।

मग चरिले अग्धाटे । अप्रवृत्तीचे ॥

तेणे भूत भावावली । म्हणोनि ससाराचिया आडवामाजी पडिली ।

मग महादुःखाच्या घेतली । दाडे बरी ॥

The Lord says to Arjuna-

Here at this stage I relate to you a short story and it runs thus : Egoism and the Human frame fell in love with each other as husband and wife; and desire was born of them as an offspring. This desire

or virgin became young and was chosen by Hatred as his consort. This couple gave birth to Infatuation in the form of all opposites like heat and cold, pain and pleasure etc. etc. And this grandson viz. Infatuation was reared up by the grandfather Egoism.

This Infatuation always defied courage and ever violated all regulations of the Individual as well as those of the society. Besides he fattened on the milk of hope, drank the wine of discontent and got wild (like an elephant). Then he made friends with the sense-objects and joined the gang of evil-doers.

Then the Royal road of the purity of heart was strewn with the thorns of the poison of suspicion and this grandson pursued the by-lanes of mis-deeds all along. The human beings were thus confounded and they buried themselves in the mire of family life, and fell victims to the strokes of misfortune.

येषां त्वन्तगतं पापं जनानां पुण्यकर्मणाम् ।
 ते द्वंद्वमोहनिर्मुक्ता भजन्ते मा दृढग्रताः ॥
 ऐसे विकल्पाचे वायाणे । काटे देखोनि सणाणे ।
 जे मतिभ्रमाचे पासावणे । घेनीचिना ॥
 उजू एकनिष्ठेच्या पाउली । रगडूनि बिरल्याचिया भायो ।
 महापातकाची सांडिली । मटवी जिही ॥
 मग पुण्याचे छावा घेतले । आनि मातो जवळीक पावले ।
 बिरहूना ते चुकले । वाटवघेया ॥

Those individuals of pious deeds, whose sins have come to an end, do escape the delusion of opposites and are at my service with a firm determination in

all respects Commenting on this verse Saint Dnyandeo says:- However there are others whose sins have come to an end and they are not overtaken by any perverted notions when they see the sharp and pointed thorns of the poison of suspicion on the way. By rooting out the devil of suspicion, they with their one pointed devotion avoid the desert of sins. Then following the path of virtues, they attain my kingdom and thus escape the onslaught of murderers.

जरामरणमोक्षाय मामाश्रित्य यतन्ति ये ।
 ते ब्रह्म तद्विदुः कृत्स्नमध्यात्म कर्म चाखिलम् ॥
 एहवी तरी पायी । जन्ममरणाची निमे कथा ।
 ऐमिया प्रयत्नाते आस्था । विये जयाची ॥
 तया तो प्रयत्नुचि एके वेळे । मग समग्र परब्रह्मो फळे ।
 जया पिकलेया रसु गळे । पूर्णतेचा ॥
 ते वेळी कृतकृत्यता जग भरे । तेथ आध्यात्माचे नवलपण पुरे ।
 कर्माचे काम सरे । विरमे मन ॥
 ऐसा अध्यात्मलामु तया । होय गा घनजया ।
 भाडवल जया । उद्यमी मी ॥
 तयाते साम्याचिये वाढी । ऐक्याची मादे कुळवाढी ।
 तेथ भेदाचिया दुबळवाढी । नेणिजे तया ॥

"Resorting to me" says the Lord, those alone that strive for the attainment of salvation (and not for the contact of new parents) after old age followed by death, are capable of understanding or realising the nature of Brahman, Adhyatma and Karma.

The commentary runs as under—

Those, (The Lord says to Arjuna) that direct their one-pointed attention to terminate the cycle of births and deaths, are likely one day to reach their destination which amounts to the attainment of Brahman. And when this stage becomes thoroughly ripe the seeker is drowned in the nectar of Perfection. This flow of Nectar needs a little explanation. Behind the uvula in the mouth, there is a hairlike passage leading to the brain where the thousand petalled plexus is situated. Now this plexus at the stage of perfection is supposed to be tilted a little and empties its contents drop by drop through the hair-like passage, in the mouth and this is the Nectar which the seeker begins to drink.

In verse No. 21 Chapter V, it is said the Yogi drinks or eats the pleasure (Please see the reference and the verse of Shankaracharya)

The seeker then feels that he is pervaded by Brahman all-round and here is the termination of the inquisitiveness (to search for the manifestation of the soul hidden inside) with which he felt inspired at the beginning. And here is the closure for all the activities resulting in perfect extinction of the mind itself. He is blessed with this return of spiritual glory for his industry, wherein the capital supplied, says the Lord, is the Lord Himself. (The name of the Lord which is the means and the vision of the Lord which is the end are one and the same) The

name and the vision are both one and the same It requires intuitive insight and time to realise that the name is the vision because such a name is available only from those who are qualified to hold their seats along with the Brahman himself.

(Ref Chapters 14 and 17)

Chapter 14 Ovis 401&402. Chapter 17 Ovis 330 & 334

परी माझे आराधन । ब्रह्मत्वी होय साधन ।

तेथ मी हन साधन । गमेन हो ॥ १४।४०१

तरी सणी ऐसे । तुझ्या चित्ती पैसे ।

पै ब्रह्म धान नसे । मीवाचूनी ॥ १४।४०२

उपजलिया बाळवासी । नाव नाही तयापासी ।

टेविलेनि नावेसी । ओ देत उठी ॥ १७।३३०

परी निगमाचळशिखरी । उपनिषदार्थनगरी ।

आहाति जे ब्रह्माच्या येकाहारी । तयासीच कळे ॥ १७।३३४

Then all the differentiation between high and low etc. etc. in the world disappears altogether in his eyes and he becomes one with the Brahman himself.

Here the Lord refers to three significant terms viz Brahma, Addhyatma and Karma and in the next verse he mentions four more ones to excite the curiosity of the listner

The verse runs as under -

साधिभूताधिदैव मा साधियज्ञ च ये विदुः।

प्रमाणवाक्येऽपि च मातेविदुर्मुक्तचेतसः ॥३०॥

The Lord says -

They are the real secrets in tune with me who know thoroughly well my aspect when I pervade the

inanimate and the animate world, as well as when I reside in the heart of Real Seers, who have isolated themselves from their body-cover and when I am one with them, or when they merge in me, when they cast off their tabernacle.

Commenting on this verse the commentator very instinctively describes the condition of the listener & states in unequivocal terms that these seven terms are themselves the very cream of the vast ocean of the Vedas. And the 8th chapter is exclusively devoted to the explanation of these seven terms which signalise the end of the story of the celestial song.

The 9th chapter is added as a comprehensive survey of the foregoing 8 chapters and thus ends the first part of the Song

These high souls, who have realised my presence in the inanimate and have seen me pervading the animate world also, and who in addition perfectly

realise that their body cover is as if a coat of arms donned and doffed on occasions of ceremony, never feel the separation when they actually cast off their tabernacle or body cover hanging loose around them (like the slough of a serpent); otherwise, in the case of ordinary mortals, when the Lord of Death sounds the trumpet for the instantaneous departure of the soul, and when the agonies of Death

are tormenting the afflicted, even the on-lookers keep shuddering with the horrors of death at the sight of the agonised departing soul. However those high souls, who have already merged in me or dissolved themselves in me, before even the warning of Death, shall never fail to remember me, when the last moment comes for Departure

Know Ye, therefore, that such souls only as are highly evolved can be classed as adepts in Yoga.

While the Lord was uttering these latter four terms, Arjuna could not concentrate his attention to grasp their meaning as he was already absorbed in pondering over the meaning of the former three terms viz. Brahma, Addhyatma and Karma already sounded in his ears. These three terms full of connotation are compared to sweet smelling ripe fruits and the Lord Shri Krishna himself stands for the tree from which these fruits suddenly dropped in the ears of Arjuna

These three fruits are further likened to the highest truths, moistened in the vast ocean of the Brahman and further smeared with the rosy powder of the highest beatific ecstasy. Arjuna steadily gazed at these delightful terms or fruits with his unwinking eyes and was drowned in the ocean of surprise and amazement. While he was delighted at the sight of these terms he felt as if he were plunged in another heaven on this earth and was eager to taste the juice of these fruits or terms and satisfy his tongue.

Arjuna picked up these fruits with the fingers of Imagination and began to swallow them with the mouth of Realisation. He could neither squeeze them with the tongue of logic nor could he break them with the teeth of intellect and he gave up the idea of swallowing them.

He felt surprised and thought them to be the starry heavens reflected in the ocean on earth, and imagined the syllables of the terms to be entirely deceptive.

These terms he found to be the waves or rolls of the sky and imagined he would not be able to recover his intellect if it were once plunged in these rolls.

Thus exhausted in his endeavours to understand the import of these terms, he turned his eyes to the Lord and said: Oh Lord all these seven terms appear to be untouched hitherto and stand unsolved as a surprise. Otherwise even very abstruse problems can be solved with pointed and acute attention. But this is not a class of that sort. At the sight of these syllables one is drowned in the ocean of surprise. The rays of words passing through the window panes of the ears have stunned the intellect and created a flood of amazement.

In spite of this all, I am very anxious to realise the import of these terms and cannot sustain the anxiety caused by any the least delay.

With this introduction Arjuna implores the Lord to hasten the reply. And in doing this he has taken the survey of the pros and cons, has simultaneously pressed his eagerness in between, and has taken the precaution not to transgress the limits of modesty in eliciting the reply from the Lord.

The Commentator says, it is Arjuna alone who as a disciple could approach the master with humility so as to touch the innermost chord of his heart and evoke voluntary response from him. Lastly he says; Sanjaya will relate the questions and answers as set forth in the next chapter and exhorts the listeners to listen to the tale in marathi and emphatically states that the explanation given would signalise the termination of the story of the Celestial Song

जिही साधिभूता माते । प्रतीतीचेनि हाते ।
 धरुनि अधिदैवाते । शिवतले गा १८०।७
 जया जाणिवेचेनि वेगे । मी अधियज्ञही दृष्टी रिगे ।
 ते तनुचेनि वियोगे । विहये नव्हती १८१
 एन्ही आयुष्याचे सूत्र विघडता । भूताची उमटे खडाडता ।
 काय न मरतयाचियाहि चित्ता । युगातु नोहे १८२
 परो नेणो कसे पैगा । जे जडोनि गेले माझिया आगा ।
 ते प्रयाणीचिया लगबगा । न साडितीच माते १८३
 एन्ही तरी जाण । ऐसे जे निपुण ।
 तेचि अत करण । युक्त योगी १८४
 तव इये शब्दकुपिकेतळी । नोडवेचि अवधानाची अजुळी ।
 जे नावेक अर्जुन तये वेळी । मागाचि होता १८५
 जेथ तद्वद्वाक्यफळे । जिये नानार्थरसे रसाळे ।
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CHAPTER XV

पाठी सप्तप्रश्न सिद्धी । बोलोनि प्रयाण समय शुद्धि ।
एवं सकल वाक्यावधि । अष्टमाध्ययी ॥

The replies to the seven-fold questionnaire along with the concentration on the name and manifestation of the Lord with readiness to merge in the Infinite Brahman, when the Body-cover has to be discarded, which mean and imply the churning of the vast ocean of the Vedas, form the subject matter of the 8th Chapter.

किं तद् ब्रह्म किमध्यात्मं किं कर्म पुरुषोत्तम ।
अधिभूतं च किं प्रोक्तमधिदैव किमुच्यते ॥
अधियज्ञः कथं कोऽत्र देहेऽस्मिन्मधुसूदन ।
प्रणयकाले च कथं ज्ञेयोऽसि नियतात्मभिः ॥

Arjuna says to the Lord, Please explain to me the meaning and connotation of Brahma, Adhyatma Karma, Adhibhoot, Adhidaiva, Adhi-yadnya and also how you can be realised when time comes for casting off the Body-cover.

The Lord says—

अक्षरं ब्रह्म परमं स्वभावोऽध्यात्ममुच्यते ।
भूतभावोद्भवकरो विसर्गः कर्मसंज्ञितः ॥
अधिभूत क्षरो भावः पुरुषश्चाधिदैवतम् ।
अधियज्ञोऽहमेवात्र देहे देहभूता वर ॥

अन्तकाले च मामेव स्मरन्मुक्त्वा कलेवरम् ।
यः प्रयाति स मद्भावं याति नास्त्यत्र सशयः ॥

Brahman is imperishable; Adhyatma is nature and the creation in the form of the objects animate as well as inanimate is Karma. Abhibhuta is the perishable or changing Purusha or the soul embedded in the Body-cover is Adhidaiva and Adhiyadna is myself says the Lord to Arjuna.

He who remembers me even at the time of casting off this Body-cover, does merge in me without the least doubt.

य य वाऽपि स्मरन्भाव त्यजत्यन्ते कलेवरम् ।
त तमेवैति कौन्तेय सदा तद्भावं भाषितः ॥

A human being attains that condition after death, which he thinks of when the occasion comes to cast off the present Body-cover

तस्मात्सर्वेषु कालेषु मामनुस्मर युध्य च ।
मय्यपि तमनोबुद्धिमिवैध्यास्यसशयम् ॥

And therefore please keep me before your mind's eye at all times and do your duty. When your mind and intellect are concentrated on me there is not the remotest chance of missing me. This is God realisation.

होटा जे देखावे । या बानी हज ऐकावे ।
मनी जे भावावे । बोलावे पावे ॥
ते मान बाहेरी आपवे । मोचि बरुनि घालावे ।
मग सर्वो बाळी स्वभावे । मोचि आहे ॥

अर्जुना ऐसे जाहालिया । मग न मरिजे देह गेलिया ।
 मा संग्रामु केलिया । भय काय तुज ? ॥
 तू मन बुद्धि साचेसि । जरी माझिया स्वरूपी अपिसी ।
 तरी मातेचि गा पावसी । हे माझी भाक ॥
 ऐसे कैसेनि होये । हा सशयो वर्ततु आहे ।
 तरी अभ्यामूनि आदि पाहे । मग नव्हे तरी कोपे ॥

While making use of your senses viz. the eyes, ears & mind or speech, keep me upper-most in your mind inside as well as outside and do all your acts. When you keep me before your mind inside as well as outside in all the foregoing acts then I shall be ever with you. Then you will not experience any Death as such even though the Body-cover is cast off. If it were so where shall be the harm if you undertake fighting also.

If you concentrate your mind and intellect on my manifestations then take it from me, surely you will be one with me.

If you entertain any doubts as to how this should happen, then please try the experiment first and then, if it fails, you have grounds to be upset.

अभ्यासयोगयुक्तेन चेतसानाम्यगामिना ।
 परम पुरय दिव्यं याति पार्ष्णिनिस्तपन् ॥

The Lord says to Arjuna :-

With one-pointed concentration and with uninterrupted steadfast adherence to the practice of

ever being in tune with the Infinite, the seeker is blessed with the vision of the Refulgent over-Lord when his mind gives no scope for anything else to contemplate

The insignia of the Refulgent over-lord that appear before the eyes of the seeker are as under. -

कविपुराणमनुशासितार अणोरणीयात्तमनुस्मरेत्थ ।
 सर्वस्यधातारमचिन्त्यरूप आदित्यवर्ण तमसः परस्तात् ॥
 जयाचे आकारावीण असणे । जयाजन्मनानिमणे ।
 जेआघवेचि आघवेपणे । देखत असे ॥
 जे गगनाहूनिजुने । जे परमाणूहूनि साने ।
 जयाचे सन्निधाने । विश्व चळे ॥
 जे सर्वातिपयाविये । विश्व सर्वजेणेजिये ॥
 हेतु जया विहे । अचिन्त्य जे ।
 देखेवोळवाइगळु नचरे । तेजी तिमिर नशिरे ॥
 जे दिहाचे आघारे । चर्म चक्षूसी ।
 सुमडा सूर्यकणाच्या राशी । जो नित्य उदयोन्नानियासी ।
 अस्तमानाचे ज्यासी । आडनाव नाही ॥

The Absolute Brahman, the Over-lord is Omniscient, Omnipresent, Omnipotent smaller than the smallest, the protector of all inconceivable extent, refulgentlike the Sun and beyond all darkness. Whose Omnipresence is formless without origin and without end, who has eyes all over, who is greater than the greatest and smaller than the smallest, whose presence is enough to move the entire creation who is the origin of the creation as well as the controller of the same, the why in whose case is beyond question

The Highest condition to be achieved by a Seeker is described very effectively by the Saint in these Ovis. This is the state of God-immersion.

The Human Frame is realised to be only an overcoat and the seers are content within themselves and feel as being one with the Universal soul; just as the sky or space in an enclosed area stands as it were merged in the sky or space all around.

Setting aside the sense-objects as a bitter cup of poison, and repenting over the activities of their senses, they look upon their body-cover as the temporary shade of a tree for resting underneath, and lastly, as regards the means for achieving the end as described above, the Saint, says : Cultivate the habit of training your mind not to stir outside and see that it rests as it were drowned in the innermost recesses of the Heart

सर्वं द्वारानि सयम्य मनो हृदि निरुध्य च ।
 मूर्ध्न्याधायान्मन प्राणमास्थितो योगधारणाम् ।
 ओमित्येनाक्षर ब्रह्म व्याहरन्मामनुस्मरन् ।
 य प्रयानि त्यजन्देह स याति परमा गतिम् ॥

He who observes the following conditions, when he has to cast-off this Tabernacle, he alone can attain the state of the highest beatification.

- 1) He must close all the nine-outlets of the Human Frame and keep constant watch over them.
- 2) He must confine the mind in the inner-most

recesses of the heart.

- 3) He must focuss his sculforce between the eye-brows.
- 4) He must sit in the posture recommended for the attainment of the Highest bliss.
- 5) He must concentrate on the name of the Lord the syllable OM.
- 6) With this concentration on the name he must set his heart full of Devotion unto me.

The Saint raises objections on behalf of Arjuna to the afore-said statement of the Lord, along with the assurance of the Lord in reply as under—

तेष अर्जुना जरी विपायें । तुझ्या जीवी हन ऐसे जाये ।
 ना हे स्मरण मग होये । कायसयावरी अती ॥
 इद्रियां अनुषड पडलिया । जीविताचे सुख बुडालिया ।
 आतुबाहेरी उघडलिया । मृत्युचिन्हे ।
 ते वेळो बैसावेचि कवणे । मग कवण निरोधो करणे ।
 तेष काह्याचेनि अंत.करणे । प्रणय स्मरावा ।
 तरि गा ऐशिया हो ध्वनी । शणे घारा देगी हो मनी ।
 ये नित्य सेविला मी निदानी । मेवकु होय ।

At the time of casting-off this Tabernacle, how is it possible to remember the name of the Lord when all the senses start struggling at the last moment, and all moisture of happiness becomes dried up and when all the strings of the Lord of Death are being tightened inside and outside all around, who can have the vigilance to be seated in the posture recommended for meditation, who can have the sagacity to control

the senses and above all who can have, at last, the alertness to remember the name of the Lord. ?

The Lord offers the reply to this statement and give assurance as under—

If you entertain any doubts as raised above, I assure you, It is the Lord himself who runs to the rescue of the devotee at the last moment, and serves him when he has spent his whole life at his service.

अनन्यचेताः सतत यो मा स्मरति नित्यश ।
तस्याहं सुलभं पार्थ नित्ययुक्तस्य योगिनः ।
मामुपेत्य पुनर्जन्म दुःखालयमशाश्वतम् ।
नाप्नुवन्ति महात्मानः सतिद्धिं परमा गताः ।

I am easily available to him who is incessantly in my service and who ever remembers me with all his heart full of my thought. And when these high souls who have reached the pinnacle of the highest beatification, when once they merge in me, they are never born again to put on this Human Frame which is the honey-comb of all agonies in life.

आब्रह्मभुवनालोका. पुनरावतिनोऽर्जुन ।
मामुपेत्य तु क्रीतेय पुनर्जन्म न विद्यते ।
सहस्रयुगपयन्तमहर्षेः सहास्रो विदुः ।
रानि युगमदृशन्ताः तैर्होरात्रविदो जनाः ।
अप्येकानृत्यवन्तः सर्वाः प्रभवन्त्यहरागमे ।
रात्र्यागमे प्रलीयन्ते तत्रैवाव्यक्तसङ्गैः ।
भूतप्रायः स एवायं भूत्वा भूत्वा प्रलीयते ।
साम्यागमेऽपि पार्थ प्रभवत्यहरागमे ।

By virtue of the meritorious deeds performed in life, human beings go to the Heavens or other worlds like those of the Brahman, yet when their share of virtues comes to an end, they are compelled to be born on this Earth. But when they merge in me, says the Lord, they are free from the cycle of births and deaths.

They alone are the real seers who can have the conception about the factor of time i. e. day and night. It is only on realisation that one can be able to see the day of Brahmadeo which extends over a thousand yugas and the night also which is equally extensive. Here 'Avyakta' means the Prakruti. When the day dawns all beings spring out from the Prakruti and when the night begins the beings get merged in the Prakruti. The creation of the beings on earth springs up and vanishes time and again. It vanishes when it is night time and springs up when it is day, as it is entirely helpless.

परस्तस्मात्तु भावोऽप्योऽव्यक्तोऽव्यक्तात्सनातनः ।

यः स सर्वेषु भूतेषु नश्यत्सु न विनश्यति ।

अव्यक्तोऽक्षर इत्युक्तस्तस्माद् परमा गतिम् ।

यं प्राप्य न निवर्तन्ते तद्धम परमं मम ।

पुरषः स परः पार्थ भक्त्या लभ्यस्त्वमगम्यमा ।

यस्यान्तःस्थानि भूतानि येन सर्वमिदं ततम् ।

Higher than this Prakruti, is another entity which is eternal and which remains immutable when everything else perishes. It is designated as non-

manifest and Immutable and it is considered as the highest achievement and goal which when once attained leaves no possibility of any return to life again.

The over-lord can be attained by one-pointed devout devotion alone. The entire world is pervaded and infiltrated by him and besides all beings are contained within Him.

यत्र काले त्वनावृत्तिमावृत्तिं चैव योगिनः ।

प्रयाता यान्ति तं कालं वक्ष्यामि भरतर्षभ ।

Hereafter the Lord mentions the opportune and in-opportune times when the seekers after truth give up their body-cover.

अग्निर्ज्योतिरहः शुक्लः पण्मासा उत्तरायणम् ।

तत्र प्रयाता गच्छन्ति ब्रह्म ब्रह्मविदो जनाः ।

धूमो रात्रिस्तथा वृष्ट्यः पण्मासा दक्षिणायनम् ।

तत्र चान्द्रमस ज्योतिर्षोमी प्राप्य निवर्तन्ते ।

शुक्लवृष्ट्यौ मती ह्यन्ते जगतः शाश्वते मते ।

एकया यात्यनावृत्तिमन्यसाञ्ज्वर्तन्ते पुनः ।

The auspicious moments when the seekers after truth are merged in the Absolute Brahman when they cast-off their body-covers, are the following.

There is eternal refulgent light of the soul within. Outside, there is the first half of the Lunar month and day light, Besides there is the six-monthly period of the year when the Sun rises to the North.

The inauspicious moments when the seekers are caught up in the snare of births and deaths, when they give up their body-covers are as under:-

Inside, the memory fails and is covered up with illusion and the fire of life is on the point of extinction, Outside, there is night time coupled with the latter half of the Lunar month. Besides, there is the six-monthly period of the year when the Sun rises towards the South. These are the perpetual two path-ways in the world, when the seekers escape the cycle of births and deaths and are caught up in their trap, when they give up their body-cover.

नैते सृती पार्थ जानन्योगी मुह्यति कश्चन ।

तस्मात्सर्वेषु कालेषु योगयुक्तो भवार्जुन ।

Knowing these two pathways, the real seer is never confounded. Therefore, the Lord exhorts Arjuna, to become a genuine seer, i. e. one who is ever surrounded by God-vision which amounts to God-Intoxication.

And now comes the last verse which is the end of the Celestial Song and the Lord says—

वेदेषु यज्ञेषु तपसु दानेषु यत्कुर्यान्न प्रदिष्टम् ।

अत्येति तत्तर्कमिदं जित्वा योगो परस्मान्मूर्तिं पादम् ।

However enticing may be the rewards accruing from the study of the Vedas, from the practice of penances, from the performances of sacrifices or from

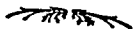
the Bounteous Donations and Gifts, a Yogin despises them all and seeks shelter in the original abode from which he has sprung up. Now compare with this the last verse of the 2nd Chapter, which is the Philosophy of God-Realisation God-Intoxication and God-Immersion.

एषा ब्राह्मीस्थितिः पार्थनैनां प्राप्य विमुच्यति ।
स्थित्वाऽस्यामन्तकालेऽपि ब्रह्मनिर्वाणमृच्छति ।

This state of the Individual is the final state of beatification and there he remains above all temptations and even when he has to cast-off this tabernacle he plunges headlong into the Infinite Brahman.

In the case of the latter, he does not condescend to fall back upon the pleasures accruing from the meritorious acts and in the former, he despises them all and plunges headlong in the Brahman the Absolute Substratum.

Here ends the Chapter



CHAPTER XVI

मम शब्दब्रह्म अस्मिन्नाके । जेतुला कांही भभिप्राय पिके ।
 तेतुला महाभारते एके । लक्षे जोडे । १०-३०
 तिये आघवांचि जे महाभारती । ते लाभे कृष्णार्जुनवाचोवती ।
 आणि जो भभिप्रायो सातेघती । तो एकलाचि नवमी । ३१

By churning the vast ocean of the Vedas, the essence has been incorporated in the one hundred thousand verses of the Mahabharat. The import of the Mahabharat is concentrated in the conversation of Lord Krishna and Arjuna. And the cream of this conversation is extracted in the ninth chapter.

The closing of the celestial song is sounded in the 7th Chapter as under—

ज्ञानं तेऽहं सविज्ञानमिदं ब्रह्माम्यशेषतः ।
 यज्ज्ञात्वा नेह भूयोऽन्यज्ज्ञातव्यमवशिष्यते । २

"I explain to you," says the Lord, the ultimate reality and the evolution of the Universe and having known this dual aspect of the Brahman, there remains nothing else to be known further.

The Lord says in the beginning of this Chapter as under—

इदं तु ते गुह्यतमं प्रब्रह्माम्यनमूयते ।
 ज्ञानं विज्ञानसहितं यज्ज्ञात्वा मोक्षयतेऽनुभात् । १

Please listen, I explain to you the innermost secret which comprises the Absolute Eternal as well

as its Universal metamorphosis resulting in the Ephemeral existence of the world. And having realised this, you will be saved from all evils. And this is the cream of the 700 verses.

राजविद्या राजगुह्यं पवित्रमिदमुत्तमम् ।

प्रत्यक्षावगम धर्म्यं सुसुखं कर्तुमव्ययम् । २

This knowledge of the Absolute Eternal is the highest and the best of all learnings, it is a sovereign secret, it is sacred, it can be realised and experienced, it is very easy to practise, it is immutable and is in conformity with the scriptures. Amongst all types of learnings this learning which results in the manifestation of the soul hidden inside the human frame, assumes the position of the Premier Science. It is the secret of all secrets and tops the list in being sacred. It is the abode of the Science of reality and is the best amongst the lot. And when once realised arrests all sojourn in the cycle of births and deaths.

It is already existing in the recesses of the hearts of persons, yet manifests itself only when the person is initiated by a learned preceptor.

अश्रद्धानां पुरुषा धर्मस्यास्य परंतप ।

अप्राप्य मां निवर्तन्ते मृत्युसंसारवर्त्मनि । ३

The Lord says to Arjuna :-

For want of faith in this spiritual science several seekers are not able to come upto me and are entrapped in the vortex of births and deaths.

मया ततमिदं सर्वं जगदव्यक्तमूर्तिना ।

मत्स्थानि सर्वभूतानि न चाहं तेष्ववस्थितः । ४

The entire universe is pervaded by me, yet I am not visible. All the beings have sprung up from me; yet I am not contained in them.

न च मत्स्थानि भूतानि पश्य मे योगमैश्वरम् ।

भूतभृन्न च भूतस्थो ममात्मा भूतभावनः । ५

Nor are the beings supported by me. Please look at this sovereign splendour of mine I am neither the foundation for the beings nor am I contained in them. And still all beings have sprung up from me.

यथाकाशस्थितो नित्यं वायुः सर्वत्रगो महान् ।

तथा सर्वाणि भूतानि मत्स्थानीत्युपधारय । ६

Please know Ye for certain that the wind moving in open space has access everywhere. Similarly are all beings permeated by me.

सर्वभूतानि कौन्तेय प्रकृतिं यांति मामिकाम् ।

कल्पक्षये पुनस्तानि कल्पादो विसृजाम्यहम् । ७

At the time of the great delusion all beings are dissolved in my cosmic nature. And at the beginning of the creation all of them spring up from me.

प्रकृतिं स्वामवष्टभ्य विसृजामि पुनः पुनः ।

भूतप्राप्तमिमं कुत्स्नमवशं प्रकृतेर्वशात् । ८

Under the influence of my Prakrati or cosmic nature, I see that all beings spring up from me. And these beings are themselves helpless acting under the control of the Prakrati as they do.

न च मा तानि कर्माणि निबन्धन्ति धनजय ।

उदासीनवदासीनमसक्त तेषु कर्मसु ९ ।

The activities of the Prakrati do not involve me because I stand detached as an indifferent spectator with respect to those activities.

मयाऽध्यदोष प्रवृत्तिः सूर्यते सचराचरम् ।

हेतुनाऽनेन कीन्तेय जगद्विपरिवर्तते । १०

Under my guidance my cosmic nature carries on the task of creation with respect to the moveable as well as the immoveable world and due to this reason the world keeps ever changing its forms.

माझेया विस्तारले णाचेनि नावे । हे जगचि नोहे आपवे ।

जैसे दूध मुराले स्वभावे । तरा तेचि दही ॥ ९-६४

का बीजचिजाहले तरू । अथवा भागारचि अलकारू ।

तैसा मज एकाचा विस्तारू । ते हे जग ॥ ६५

महदादि देहान्ते । इये असोपेही भूते ।

पै माझ्याठायी बिबते । जैसे जळी फेण ॥ ६७

परी तया फेणाआतु पहाता । जेवी जळ न दिसे पडसुता ।

ना तरी स्वप्नीची अनेकता । चेडलिया नोहिजे ॥ ६८

तैसी भूते इये माझ्याठायी । बिबतीतयामाजी मी नाही ॥

इया उपपत्ती तुज पाही । सांगितल्या मागा । ६९

आमुचा प्रकृति पैलीकडील भावो । जरी कल्पनेवीण लागसी पाहो ।

तरी मजमाजी भूते हेही वावो । जे सर्व मी म्हणवूनी ॥ ७१

एन्ही सकल्पाचे साजवेळे । नावेकतिमिरेजती बुद्धिचे डोळे ॥

म्हणोनि अखडितचि परि ज्ञावळे । भूतमित्र ऐसे देखे ॥ ७२

तेचि सकल्पाची साज जै लोपे । तै अखडितचि आहे स्वरूपे ।

जैसे शका जातलेवी लोपे । सापपणमाळेचे । ७३

तैसी द्ये निमंळे माझ्या स्वरूपी । जो भूतभावना आरोपी ।
 तयासी तयाच्या संकल्पी । भूता भासू असे ॥ ७९
 तेचि कल्पिती प्रकृती पुरे । तरी भूताभासू आधीचिसरे ।
 मग स्वरूप उरे एकसरे । निखळ माझे । ८०
 यालागी मजपासूनि भूते । आने नव्हती हे निरुते ।
 आणि भूतावेगळिया माते । कहीच न मनी हो । ८८
 पै गगन जेवढे जैसे । पवनुहि गगनी तेवढाचि असे ।
 सहजे हालविलिया वेगळा दिसे । एन्ही गगन तंचि तो । ८९
 ऐसिया प्रतीतिबोधमागरी । तू आपणेयातें कल्लोळु एक करी ।
 मग जव पाहासी चराचरी । तव तूचि आहासी ॥ ९३
 आता येणे उजिवडे निरुते । न्याहाळी पा ऐश्वर्ययोगाते ।
 जे माझ्या ठायी भूते । परी भूती मी नसे ॥ ९३३
 अथवा भूते ना माझ्या ठायी । आणि भूतामाजी मी नाही ।
 या खुणा तू कही । चुको नको ॥ ९३४
 हे सर्वस्व आम्हीचे गुड । परि दाविले तुज उघड ।
 आता इद्रिया देऊनि कवाड । हृदयी भोगी । ९३५
 हा दंशु जव नये हाता । तव माझे साचोकारपण पार्था ।
 न सपडे गा सर्वथा । जेवि तुमी कणु ॥ ९३६

Now we shall have a short survey of the commentary of Shri Dnyandeo on the aforesaid ten verses :

The second verse is devoted to the attainment of real knowledge, thereby meaning the manifestation of the soul within, and then begins the description of the Universal knowledge which runs as follows—

The Lord says to Arjuna—

The extent of my Infinite expanse automatically assumes the form of the entire Universe by metamor-

phosis, just as milk, when fermented becomes curds itself

Or the seed sprouts and grows into a tree or gold is transformed into ornaments. Similarly the entire universe is my own expanse. Right from my Prakrati to the minute body covers, the entire creation is seen reflected in me like the froth or foam on the surface of water.

Yet the foam does not contain any particles of water, or in sleep during the dreamy state, we fancy things which vanish altogether when we are awake, similarly the creation appears to be reflected in me yet I am not contained in the creation. And we have explained this theory several times before.

If you can possibly grasp my extent beyond the Prakrati and without any preconceived notions, then the statement that the creation appears to be reflected in me, is also baseless because my extent itself is all pervading.

Now in the condition of preconceived notions, the intellectual insight gets blurred; and my infinite expanse though uninterrupted and continuous appears to be rather disturbed and uneven with the creation. Yet when such notions disappear I remain as intact as I was before. For instance a rope lying on the ground, due to imagination appears to be like a serpent, yet when the idea of the serpent is removed, the rope remains as it was before.

Thus ignorance well as the knowledge removing the ignorance both vanish away and the original rope remains. Similarly the creation of the world is due to the idea of an appearance on the transparent Infinite Absolute and as soon as the idea of the creation vanishes the Absolute Infinite remains as it was before. It was in existence before the creation and it lasts after the creation has disappeared. This is in general the theory of the Absolute Substratum and the appearance of the world on the surface of the same. And this is vidyan, the creation of the Universe, according to Dnyandeo. The volume of the wind in the sky is coextensive. If disturbed a little, it is felt separately as wind otherwise it is one with the sky. Similarly, you imagine yourselves to be a small surge on this vast ocean of self-realisation and then wherever you cast your glance you find your ownself everywhere. This is ब्रह्महासि God-in-toxication. Now with this insight look at my sovereign glory and you will find the creation waving on my surface, however I am not contained in the creation. Or for the matter of that neither the creation waves on my surface nor am I contained in the creation. Please do not lose sight of these secret signs of my glory. Now have experience of this secret in your heart of hearts keeping yourselves shut up aloof from your senses for the time being. My inherent glory cannot be discovered unless you realise and secure this vital secret, viz the vision of the Lord.

Otherwise it will amount to searching for grains in the pile of husk.

Thus this widnyana or knowledge of the Universe can be appreciated only when the moisture of the grace of God in the form of self realisation is attained by the seeker or genuine aspirant.

अवजानन्ति मा मूढा मानुषी तनुमाश्रितम् ।

पर भावमजानन्तो मम भूतमहेश्वरम् ॥ ११ ॥

मोघाशा मोघकर्माणो मोघज्ञाना विचेतसः ।

राक्षसीमासुरी चैव प्रकृति मोहिनीं श्रिताः ॥ १२ ॥

Not knowing my sovereign glory, ignorant fools take me to be an ordinary mortal resorting to the Human Frame; thus invain is their life.

These unreasonable creatures with vain hopes futile activities and fruitless knowledge have embraced nature which is devilish demoniacal and delusive

महात्मानस्तु मा पार्थ दैवी प्रकृतिमाश्रिता ।

भजन्त्यनन्यमनसो ज्ञात्वा भूतादिमव्ययम् ॥ १३ ॥

High Souls on the other hand who possess a divine nature, are ever at my service with one pointed devotion and with full understanding that I am the source of all creation and am Immutable.

सतत कीर्तयन्तो मा यतन्तश्च दृढवताः ।

नमस्यन्तश्च मा भक्त्या नित्ययुक्ता उपासते ॥

They are at my service without interruption with great devotion often prostrating with firm dete-

mination to secure my vision and ever remain singing my name and glory.

After discussing the State of persons with devilish tendencies, the condition of the high souled devotees is illustrated at great length.

Here again three types of devotees are classified :

The first type illustrates the devotees with intense devotion.

The second type deals with those Practising the Patanjala Yoga.

The third type mentions the great thinkers who analyse the Human Frame as it stands constituted and find out the essential force or spirit pervading the whole frame work; and these are said to follow the path of wisdom.

The great thinkers who analyse the Human frame and those that analyse the entire creation arrive at the same conclusion that there is only one spirit that is pervading the human frames as well as the entire creation.

The ultimate aim of all the three types is to realise the self or the Atman who lies hidden deep in the recesses of the heart of the devotees.

There are others who are devoted to me on the strength of their wisdom and possess the capacity to visualise unity is diversity and diversity is unity, which is the law of creation.

तो प्रतीतीचेनि पार्श्वे । त्रिवेणमहामंत्रे ।

ज्ञानाग्निहोत्रे । भेदनाशी । १-२४३

म्हणीनि विश्व भिन्न । परि न भेदे तयाचे ज्ञान ।

जैसे अवयव तरि आन आन । परि एकेचि देहीचे । २५०

अगा हे जेव्हाडी माशी व्याप्ती । तेव्हाचि तयाची प्रतीती ।

ऐसे बहुधाकारी वर्तती । बहुचि होउनी । २५८

अगा तयाचिया ज्ञाना । पाठी पोट नाही अर्जुना ।

वायु जैसा गगना । सर्वांगी असे । २६०

He ceases to observe any diversity in the unity of the creation, on the strength of his realisation which he attains as the result of his concentration on the name of the Lord. Even though the objects in nature are seen in different forms, he gets the insight to find unity in them; as for instance, the various limbs of any being appear in different forms though they belong to the same-body.

The vastness of their realisation is coextensive with my omnipresence and they assume as many forms as could ever be conceived.

There is no limit to the extent of their realisation as the air which occupies the open space through and through

अहं प्रतुरहं यज्ञः स्वधाऽहमहमीषघम् ।

मन्त्रोऽहमेवाज्यमहमग्निरहं हुतम् ।

Here begins the manifestation of the Lord. The Vedas are his utterances and whatever is prescribed as the form of the sacrifices enjoined by the Vedas and all the various articles incidental to the rituals are the manifestations of the Lord Himself i. e. the fire, the oblations offered, the hymns sung, the fuel etc. etc.

The following three verses in particular elucidate the magnanimity, the majesty, the over Lordship and the command of the Almighty as the controller of the entire Universe which has sprung up from only a ray of the Infinite resplendence of the Lord.

पिताऽहमस्य जगतो माता धाता पितामहः ।
 क्षेत्रं पवित्रमोङ्कार ऋक्सामयजुरेव च ।
 गतिमन्तर्ता प्रभुः साक्षी निवासः शरणं सुहृत् ।
 प्रभवः प्रलयः स्थान निधान बीजमव्ययम् ।
 तपाम्यहमहं वर्षं निगूहाम्पुनर्मृजामि च ।
 अमृतं चैव मृत्युदह सदसच्चाहमर्जुन ।

I am the generator of the Universe.

I am the mother, I am the father and as well the grandfather. The world is the outcome of Prakrati and Purush. The Prakrati as well as the Purush have sprung up from the Absolute Brahman.

Thus the world is the grandchild of the Absolute Brahman.

I am the source of all sacred knowledge i. e. the Vedas.

I am the syllable Om. I am the three Vedas namely, the Rik Sam and Yajus.

I am the resort for the Prakrati.

I am the over Lord of the Universe

I am the controller of the activities of all the elements in nature Viz. earth, water, fire, air and space. At the same time, I am the spectator.

I am the Substratum for all.

I am the resort of all.

I am the friend of all

I am the source of everything in nature, ultimately everything dissolves in me.

I am the support, I am the resort.

I am the source which is imperishable.

I am the Sun evaporating everything.

I am the Indra showering torrents of rain.

I can set free as well as control the movements of the world.

I am the imperishable as well as the perishable.

I am the Sat and also the Asat of the Nasadiya Sukta.

Asat means the Absolute Brahman and Sat means the Prakrati or Maya Illusion, accompanying the Purush as his shadow.

Thus we find that the realisation of the Individual soul and its identity with the Universal soul as well as the knowledge of the creation and the

Universe is elucidated in the ninth chapter, which is the cream of the seven hundred verses of the Song.

Hereafter in two verses the achievement of the heavens on the strength of the funds of accumulation of meritorious deeds and the return to the mundane world, when the funds are exhausted, are discussed. Those worshipping with devotion other deities for the fulfilment of the varied desires also ultimately happen to worship me, says the Lord though in a circuitous manner. Their worship amounts to wasting their energy by pouring any tasty syrup in the ears instead of in the mouth, which is as good as throwing it away

म्हणोनि न मचि डोळे ज्ञान । ते निर्दोष होवावे ।

It is therefore, imperative that real knowledge, which is the incentive for action ought to be unalloyed.

अहं हि सर्वयज्ञाना भोक्ता च प्रभुरेव च ।
न तु मामभिजातन्ति तत्त्वेनातरच्यवन्ति ते ।

I am the receiver of all the oblations offered in sacrifices and am the over-Lord of all : yet they do not realise and appreciate my extent in its entirety and hence they fail to approach me and are involved in the cycle of births and deaths.

याणि देवग्रहा देवान् विभुषयन्ति विभूयताः ।
भूतानि यान्ति भूतेभ्यः यानि मद्याजिनोऽपि माम् ।

Devotees of deities find resort in the deities.
Those of the manes in the manes.
Those of the elements in the elements.

Whereas those devoted to me find shelter in me
says the Lord

जयांचि जाणती मजचि शास्त्रें । मी जोडें जयांचेति मंत्रे ।
 ऐसे जे चेष्टामात्रें । भजले मज ।
 ते मरणा ऐलीकडे । मज मिळोनि मेले फुडे ।
 मग मरणी आणिकीकडे । जातील केवी ?
 पै अर्जुना माझे ठायी । आपणपेवीण सौरमु नाही ।
 मी उपचारें कवणाही । नाकळें गा ॥
 एष जाणीव करी तोचि नेणे । आयिलेपण मिरवी तेचि उणे ।
 आम्ही जाहलो ऐसे जो म्हणे । तो काहीचि नव्हे ॥
 म्हणीनि शोरपण पन्हां साडिजे । एष व्युत्पत्ति अघवी विसरिजे ।
 जें जगा बाकुटें होइजे । तें जवळीक माझी ॥

My realisation is their study of Scriptures. The symbolic name received from them by the disciples is powerful enough to have my vision.

All their activities also are nothing but devout devotion unto me

They have merged in me already even before death and hence is there any other goal for them when they cast off their body cover ?

Inspite of all this, the Lord says to Arjuna—

I stand for nothing but self-surrender on the part of devotees.

I can never be purchased for mere lip-sympathy.

He who is proud of his knowledge knows practically nothing It is a grave deficiency in him if he

exults in his own cunning And lastly he knows absolutely nothing who feels that he has become omniscient.

He who forgets his exalted position, behaves as though he is perfectly ignorant, and feels he is smaller than the smallest in the world, alone can secure access to me.

पत्रं पुष्पं फलं तोयं यो मे भक्त्या प्रयच्छति ।

तदहं भक्त्युपहृतमश्नामि प्रयत्नात्मनः ॥ २६

Whatever is offered to me by my devotee with intense love and affection, not only do I accept the same but even swallow it. May it be a small leaf, a flower or even a spoonful of water and that I do with great delight as it comes from one who has achieved perfect Self-control.

यत्करोषि यदश्नासि यज्जुहोषि ददासि यत् ।

यत्तपस्यसि कोन्तेय तत्कुरुष्व मदपणम् ।

ते त्रियाजात आपवे । जे जैसे निपजेल स्वभावे ।

ते भावना करोनि करावे । माझिया मोहरा ।

परि सर्वथा आपुले जीवी । केलियाची ते कांहीचि नुरवी ॥

ऐसी धुयोनी कर्म द्यावी । माझिया हार्ता ॥

Let all your activities in life be ever as offerings to me, may they be as duties discharged or any articles swallowed, or any sacrifices performed or any donations offered, or any penances practised.

All the duties discharged, in whatever form or condition they may happen to exist, discharge them with intense devotion to me and as offerings to me.

Besides, do not leave even the slightest tinge of these duties even in your memory; so that they will have the transparent aspect of selflessness, leaving not even the trace of their authorship behind:

शुभाशुभफलैरेवं मोक्षयसे कर्मबन्धनैः ।

संन्यासयोगयुक्तात्मा विमुक्तो मामुपैष्यति ।

मृणीति अर्जुना यापरी । पाहेचा वेळु नव्हेल भारी ।

हे सन्यासयुक्ति सोपारी । दिधली तुज ॥

मग अग्निबुडी बीजें घातली । तिये अंकुरदसे जेवीं मुक्ली ।

तेवी न फळतीचि मज अपिली । शुभाशुभे ॥

You will thus escape from the good or evil effects of your actions. And finally you will merge in me, being already free from the shackles of your actions which have been executed with perfect renunciation. As seeds burnt in fire cannot grow similarly all actions offered to God will not yield any fruit at all. And thus you will be saved from the cycle of births and deaths. The Lord further exhorts Arjuna that the delay of even a single day, in the tactful operation of the weapon of Renunciation (i e. offering all actions to God) entrusted to him would be intolerable.

समोऽहं सर्वभूतेषु न मे द्वेषोऽस्ति न प्रियः ।

ये भजन्ति तु मां भक्त्या मयि ते तेषु चाप्यहम् ।

I am the same to all. I have no likes or dislike for any one. Those that serve me with unswerving devotion, merge in me and I in them, i e. they are one with me.

आतां जायाचें जैसें लेणें । आंगावरी आहाचवाणे ।
 तैसे देह धरणे । उदास तयांचे ।
 परिमळु निघालिया पवनापाठीं । मागे वोस फूल राहे देठी ।
 तैसे आयुष्याचिये मुठीं । केवळ देह ।

Just as one feels no attachment for any ornaments borrowed for temporary decoration, similarly, the devotees as mentioned above, keep on their body cover with utter indifference for it and complete detachment from the same. When the breeze carries away the sweet smell from the flower, the flower remains attached to the thalamas waiting for the chance to drop down, similarly when the devotees merge in me, they remain detached from the body cover, leaving it to the mercy of the God of death.

अपि चेत्सुदुराचारो भजते मामनन्यमाक् ।
 साधुरेव स मन्तव्यः सम्यग्व्यवसितो हि सः ।

If one serves me with unflinching devotion, be he a hardened sinner in the past, he should be considered as a highly evolved soul and as one well regulated in life.

शिष्टं भवति धर्मात्मा सादरच्छान्तिं निगच्छति ।
 कीन्तेय प्रजिज्ञानीहि न मे भवतः प्रणश्यति ।

Suddenly he is transformed into a righteous soul and finds eternal bliss and peace. I assure you, says the Lord to Arjuna, my devotee can never perish or be lost.

मां हि पार्थ व्यपाश्रित्य येऽपि स्मृ पापयोनयः ।
 स्त्रियो वैश्यास्तथा शूद्रास्तेऽपि यान्ति परा गतिम् ।
 राजाज्ञेक्षी अक्षरे आह्वती । त्रिये चामा एका जया पडती ।
 तया चामासाठी जोडती । सकळ वस्तु ।
 बाचूनि सोनेरुपें प्रमाण नोहे । एय राजाज्ञाचि समर्थ आहे ।
 तेचि चाम एक जै लाहे । सेणे विकती आषवी ।
 सैसे उत्तमत्व तैचि तरे । तैचि सर्वज्ञता सरे ।
 जै मनोबुद्धि भरे । माझे नि प्रेमे ।

When they once find a resort in me, even the hardened sinners, females, merchants or labourers, whosoever they may be, they find their ultimate goal in the final beatification. The main purpose of this verse is that those that are restricted from the study of the Vedas find their salvation in the reading of the Celestial Song. Even if it be a piece of leather, if it has the insignia of the Ruler printed on it, that piece will fetch all articles in the market in return according to the proportionate cost. Whereas even gold and silver will not be useful because the command of the Ruler is all powerful and the piece of leather, which bears the stamp will bring in return all articles proportionate to the value printed on it. Similarly when the mind and the intellect are riveted on me, then alone all the good qualities of the person or his omniscience will carry their proportionate value.

त्रि पुनर्वात्सल्यः पुन्या भवता राजपंथतया ।
 अनित्यमगुण लोभमिमं प्राप्य भवत्सव माम् ।

When the most degenerate and outcast persons find their salvation as soon as they find resort in me. can there be any exception for the Brahmin class or the sage-like princes, who are pious and ever given to do meritorious acts, when they also seek shelter in me? The Lord then exhorts Arjuna to serve him with unflinching devotion when he is born in this world which is so changing and so miserable.

मन्मना भव मद्भक्तो मद्याजी मा नमस्कुरु ।
मामेवैष्यसि युक्तवैवमात्मानं मत्परायणः ।

Hence the Lord says to Arjuna-

You will ultimately merge in me provided you obey the following commandments

You must rivet your mind on me.

You have devout devotion for me.

Your sacrifices must be all for my sake.

Your supplications must be all for me.

You must focuss all your attention on me as your final goal.

All this amounts to saying that the devotee must plunge in the Lord i. e. to say in other words you must return to your original abode. And this is the final message of the Celestial Song.

Thus ends the ninth chapter which exhaustively reviews the Dhyana i. e. Self realisation as well

as vidhyan i. e. the Universal Knowledge about God which amounts to Omniscience, Omnipotenance and omnipresence of the Almighty Lord.

And this is the essence of the Nasadieya Sukta which we have already dealt with in detail in the chapter on manifestations.

Here ends Chapter XVI

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CHAPTER XVII

We have styled this chapter as a corollary of the 16th chapter for the reasons stated below :—

The last verse of the XVI Chapter runs as under—

तस्माच्छास्त्रं प्रमाणं ते कार्याकार्यव्यवस्थितौ ।
ज्ञात्वा शास्त्रविधानोक्तं कर्म कर्तुमिहार्हसि ॥

Hence it is the scriptures that ought to guide you in venturing on any activities or in desisting from them. You ought to undertake any activities only when you ascertain that they are prescribed by the Scriptures.

Arjuna is surprised at this statement of the Lord and cannot imagine how all activities should be or could be regulated as prescribed by the Scriptures, in the case of all beings and at all times. His reasoning is as under :—

म्हणीनि शास्त्राचे घडते . नोहे प्रकारे बहुते ।

तरी मूर्खा मुमुक्षा येथे । काय गती पा ? ॥

हा पुमावया अभिप्रावो । तो अर्जुन करी प्रस्तावो ।

तो सतराव्या ठावो । अध्याया येथ ॥

To secure the jewel from the hood of the cobra to snatch a hair from the nostrils of a lion, to pass the hair through the nose of the jewel and then to wear the jewel or necklace as an ornament or else to remain without the ornament.

The Scriptures have, similarly, several interpretations and who can bring about a concord between the conflicting opinions. And supposing there is uniformity established, where is the time and scope for all beings to act accordingly And again where is the opportunity for all, for the execution, assuming for the time being, that the Scriptures, provisions or means, time and place are all at hand ? Therefore the Scriptures can hardly stand the need of the majority. And hence where is the consolation for the Ignorant who are all the same eager for liberation. The reply given by the Lord in this behalf when thus solicited by Arjuna, forms the subject matter of the 17th chapter

Arjuna says to the Lord :-

ये शास्त्रविधिमुत्सृज्य यत्रान्ते श्रद्धयान्विताः ।

तेषां निष्ठा तु वा कृष्ण मन्वमाहो रजस्तमः ॥

What category do they belong to, who set aside the rulings of the Scriptures and carry on their

activities, 'no doubt with faith. Is it either the Satwa, the Rajas or the Tamas ?

The Lord says :-

त्रिविधा भवति श्रद्धा देहिना सा स्वभावजा ।
सात्त्विकी राजसी चैव तामसी चेति सा शृणु ॥

The faith of these persons is three-fold, as per the nature of the Individuals. It is either the Satwa, the Rajas or the Tamas.

सत्त्वानुरूपा सर्वस्व श्रद्धा भवति भारत ।
श्रद्धामयोग्य पुरुषो यो यच्छ्रद्ध स एव स ॥

Faith is inherent in the very nature of any person and his actions are directed by his nature according as he is a Satwa, a Rajas or a Tamas. Hence the Faith assumes the form according to the nature of the Individual.

तरी जाणिजे शाडफुले । वा मानस जाणिजे बोलें ।
भों ज्ञाणिजे केले । पूर्वज-मीचे ।
वृत्तीऐसे मन धरिती । मनाऐसी क्रिया बरिती ।
केलियाऐसी बरिती । मरनि देह ॥

The quality or species of any tree can be recognised from the flowers. The mind of any man can be smelt from his utterances. The mis-deeds of the past life can be inferred from the sufferings in the present one.

The inclinations of any Individual are controlled by the Gunas and the mind takes the shape accor-

dingly, the actions then follow the mind. And the next birth depends upon the actions in the present life. The seed germinates and the tree is formed. The tree fructifies, yields seeds again and perishes. This cycle goes on everlasting yet the species continue.

Thus the whole creation rotates on the axis of the three Gunas which according to permutation and combination give rise to innumerable varieties according to their own conditions which may be mild, advanced or dominating.

यजन्ते सात्त्विका देवान् यक्षरक्षांसि राजसा ।

प्रेतान्भूतगणाश्चान्ये यजन्ते तामसा जनाः ॥

Those dominated by the Satwa guna, are worshippers of God, the Rajasas worship the Demons and the Tamasas worship dead bodies and ghosts.

जे हे सात्त्विक श्रद्धा । जतन करायी प्रबुद्धा ।

यरी दोनी विश्वा । साढाविया ॥

ह सात्त्विकमति जया । निर्वाहती होय घनजया ।

बागूल मोह तथा । बँवल्य ते ॥

ता न पढा का ग्रन्थग्र । ना लोडो सर्व शास्त्र ।

मिदात न होत स्वयंत्र । तथाच्या हानी ॥

परी श्रुतिस्मृतिचि अर्थ । ज आपण होऊनि मूर्ख ।

अनुष्ठान जगा देन । घडोल जे हे ॥

तयाची आचरती पाउने । पाऊनि सात्त्विकी श्रद्धा पाते ।

तो मेचि पळ टेंबिले । ऐने लाहे ॥

पं एक दीपु लावो सायाग । आणि तेथे लाऊ बेंस ।

थरी ता काय प्रमाणे । यचिते गा ? ॥

कां येकं मोल अपार । वेंचोनि केले घवराळ ।
 तो सुरवाडु वस्तीकर । न भोगी काई ?
 हे असो जो तळे करी । ते तयाचीच तृपा हरी ।
 की मुआरासीचि अन्न घरी । येरा नोहे ? ॥
 चहूत काय बोलो पै गा । येका गीतमासीचि गंगा ।
 येरा समस्ता काय जगा । बोहोळ जाली ॥
 म्हणीनि आपुलियापरी । शास्त्र अनुष्ठिती कुसरी ।
 जाणे तयाते अढाळू जो बरी । तो मूर्खही तरे ॥

The Lord exhorts Arjuna to nurse this Satwika faith very carefully and avoid the other two as they are quite antagonistic.

Salvation is not far from him whose only care is to nurse this Satwa faith. Let him not personally be conversant with the sacred Scriptures nor be he capable to understand the doctrines or rulings of the Scriptures by himself; if however, with the utmost Satwik faith he scrupulously cares to follow the foot-steps of those who, themselves adept in the Scriptures, observe their rulings to a letter without swerving either to the right or to the left, he is bound to receive the same reward which shall be shared by the learned themselves.

For example, a certain person lights a lamp with great pains and another one lights his lamp with ease with the light already kindled, can it ever happen that the second person will receive less light from his lamp, simply because he had less troubles to undergo?

Or, for instance, a certain person erects a magnificent building at great cost and another one a passer-by halts for a moment and takes rest there, will the latter not enjoy the same luxury for the time being ? Or, for instance, one person constructs a lake at a great cost and another one drinks the water with ease, will the latter not be able to quench his thirst with that water ? Or, for example, take a cook who cooks the food for the family, cannot the rest of the family enjoy the food prepared by him ? Enough of these similies. It was Goutama who from the heavens brought the Ganges on the earth. Now that water of the Ganges is shared by the rest of the world. Is it not as sacred to others as it was to Goutama ?

Therefore if there happens to be a certain well-read Sage who is conversant with the observances of the Scriptures, and another ignorant person yet with staunch faith adheres to the teachings of the said Sage, surely he will also be able to attain the same goal or salvation as that of the learned person

Thereafter this chapter deals with the penances practised by the Rajasas and Tamasas; and prescribe diets for the development of the Satwik, Rajas and Tamasas Gunas as will be needed by respective persons. Then from verses 11 to 22 we have three types of sacrifices, penances and donations and lastly we come to verse No. 23, which discloses the secret or the very heart of this Spiritual Science.

एव दावावया मत्वं तुजं । निरपिले तम रज ।
 ते साटुनि सत्वेकाज । साधी भापुले ॥
 सत्वेचि येणें चोखाळे । करी यज्ञादिके सकळे ।
 पावसी तं करतळे । आपुले निज ।
 सूर्ये दात्रिले साते । काय एव न दिसे तेथे ॥
 तेवी सत्वे केले फळाते । वाय नेदी ? ॥
 हे कीर आवडताविखी । शक्ति सत्वी आसी तिकी
 परी मोक्षेसी एवी । मिसळणें जे ।
 ते एक धानचि आहे । तयाचा सावावो जे लाहे ।
 ते मोक्षाचाही होये । गावी सरते ।
 पै भागार जन्ही पधरे । तन्ही राजावळीची अक्षरे ।
 लाहे तैचि सरे । जियापरी ॥
 स्वच्छे शीतळें सुगधे । जळे होती सुखप्रदें ।
 परी पवित्रः सवधे । तीर्थाचिनि ॥
 नयो का भलतैसी थोरी । परी गगा जे अनिकारी ।
 तैचि तिये मागरी । प्रवेशु गा ॥
 तैमे सात्त्विका कर्मा किरीटी । येता मोक्षाचिये भेटी ।
 न पडे आडकाठी । त वेगळे आहे ॥
 हा बोलु आइकत खेवी । अर्जुना आधी न माये जीवी ।
 म्हणे देवे कृपा करावी । सागावे ते ॥
 तेथ कृपालुचक्रवर्ती । म्हणे आईक तयाची व्यक्ती ।
 जेणे सात्त्विक त मुक्ति । रत्न दखे ॥

The Lord says to Arjuna . So far I have explained to you the indications of Rajas and Tamas gunas only to impress upon your mind the excellence of the Satwa guna . Please therefore avoid the two others and follow Satwa alone for your Eternal welfare, perform all your sacrifices etc with the

help of this Satwa guna and that will facilitate your return journey to the Infinite Absolute. When the sun shines, nothing can remain hidden from sight, similarly there is nothing in the world which cannot be achieved with the help of the Satwa guna. Though this is the dominating action of the Satwa guna, still ultimate achievement of the Eternal Bliss stands in need of something else in addition to the Satwa guna. This something else, if it could be available then it will serve as a free passport to the gateway of Providence instantaneously. To illustrate this statement the Lord says— God is gold no doubt, yet when the king's Insignia are impressed upon it, it sells in the market immediately.

We have filtered water sweetened with ice and aroma, no doubt yet it will attain sanctity when it comes in contact with any sacred deities of worship.

Rivers, howsoever large they may be yet they can have access to the ocean when they gain contact with the Ganges. Similarly, duties discharged with the help of the Satwa guna will lead on unhindered to the gateway of Providence only when the requisite deficiency is adequately supplied on the way. Arjuna as soon as he heard these words from the lips of the Lord, could not but request for the explanation of the hinted deficiency, without delay. The Lord instantaneously responded to the call and explained the deficiency as follows:—

ॐ तत्सदिति निर्देशो ब्रह्मण त्रिविध स्मृत ।
ब्राह्मणास्तेन वेदाश्च यज्ञाश्च विहिता पुरा ॥

Om Tat Sat is the three syllabled symbol indicating Brahman And it is this symbolic expression that has given rise to the Brahmins, Vedas and the Sacrifices And this three-syllabled symbol is the deficiency

तरी अनादि परब्रह्म । जें जगदादि विश्रामघाम ।
तयाचे एव नाम । त्रिधा पै असे ॥
ते कीर अनाम अजाति । परी अविद्यावर्माचिये राती
माजी वोळखावया श्रुती । खूण बेन्नी ।
उपजलिया बालकामी । नाम नाही तयापासी ।
ठविलनि नावेसी । ओ देत उठी ।
कष्टले ससारक्षणे । जें देवा येती गाहाणे
तया ओ दे नावे जणें । तो सकेतु हा ।
ब्रह्माचा अबोला फिंगवा । अद्वैतत्वे तो भेटावा ।
एसा मंत्र देखिला कणवा । वेदे वाप ॥
मग दाविलेनि जणें एव । ब्रह्म आळविलें कवनि ।
मागा असत ठावे । पुढा उभ ॥
परी निगमाचळ नितरी । उपनिषदाचेंनगरी ।
आहाति जें ब्रह्माच्या एकाहारी । तयागीच बळे ॥
हरी अगा प्रजापती । नरिण ज मृष्टी करिती ।
त जया एका आवृत्ति । नामाविष ॥
पै मृष्टीचिया उपक्रमा । पूर्वी गा विरातमा ।
बेडा एसा ब्रह्मा । एबला हाता ॥
मज ईश्वरानें नोळग । मा मृष्टाही कर न दाद ।
तो थोर वेला एक । नामें जणें ॥
जयाबा अर्चुं जें बी ब्रह्मा । ज ब्रह्मचरि जया ।
विश्वगुणायाम ॥ जानी जया ॥

The Infinite Absolute Sub-stratum the Brahman having no beginning and which is the source and support of the entire Universe is designated by a three-syllabled name viz Om, Tat, Sat, The Brahman has in fact, neither any name nor any category yet the Vedas have conveniently adopted this suitable sign of the three-syllabled symbol to locate the Brahman enveloped in the darkness of Ignorance A newly born babe has no name yet it responds to the call when its Baptised name is sounded in its ears Similarly the utterance of this three syllabled symbol OM TAT SAT is bound to evoke response from the Brahman, in the case of persons, who are afflicted by the miseries of worldly life and are eager to seek redress at the hands of a competent authority.

The Vedas have invented this symbol to evoke response from the tongue-tied Brahman and establish union with Him i. e the Almighty Lord

The in-visible Brahman thus eagerly and anxiously implored by the devotee with the aid of this symbol, manifests himself before the eyes of the seeker

On the hill-top of the Vedas, there is a small town of the Upanishadas and those that are seated in a line with the Brahmadeo himself in the Audience Hall of this town are in the know of or in the possession of this secret Symbol.

Be it so. Brahmadeo himself was enabled to carry on his task of creation on the strength of the single utterance of this Secret Symbol

The Lord says, before the creation of the Universe Brahmadeo the first off-spring of the Lord, was absolutely mad. He neither recognised his parent the Almighty Lord nor was able to carry on his task of creation. He was, therefore, initiated with the secret symbol and having concentrated on the same, he instantaneously recognised his parent and simultaneously carried on his task of creation of the Universe. Such is the powerful influence and magnetic action of the secret symbol

The first offspring of the Infinite Brahman is Brahmadeo himself. He was mad and would not recognise his parent nor was able to carry on the task of creation entrusted to him. He was therefore initiated with the secret symbol OM TAT SAT by the Almighty Lord himself and that was handed down by Brahmadeo from generation to generation to the mystics & Saints since creation. And therefore this is the link or secret symbol which will ultimately lead on to the Eternal Infinite on the return journey of the beings in the world or in other words in the process of Involution. Thus the deficiency is explained which is the heart of the Celestial Song leading to final immersion in God. And this is the discovery of the Vedas

CONCLUSION & CHAPTER XVIII

The XVII Chapter comes in as a corollary of the XVI no doubt Still virtually it discloses the very heart of the Celestial Song

The Doctrine of Merger is the final message of the Celestial Song; and it is the culmination of Involution The absolute substratum, the Brahman under the influence of its own sweet will metamorphosed itself in the form of the creation, which in other words may be styled as evolution This creation is inanimate as well as animate and the Human-beings stand as the chosen flowers of the animate world Because the spiriton or the Individual Soul embedded in the Human frame, which in other words may be styled as the scintillation of the Brahman itself, possesses the capacity to dissolve the human frame and finally merge in the Infinite Brahman Human beings, therefore, can be very aptly designated as the cream of the creation on the return journey to the Brahman which is their original abode.

The 2nd chapter of the celestial song deals with the philosophy of the return journey. And chapters from 3 to 8 discuss in detail the Science to reach the goal.

The existence of the Human Frame itself is the embodiment of action. And to facilitate the onward march of the Return journey, the fourth chapter states that the Action should be linked to knowledge. This knowledge is available from the learned preceptors who have achieved the goal.

The question still remains a mystery as to what is it that is actually imparted by the learned preceptors to the solicitous disciples to enable them to achieve the goal. And after everything is said and done, this mystery is revealed in the XVII Chapter.

स्वच्छे शीतलं सुगन्धं । जलं होती सुखपदे ।
 परी पावित्र्यत्व सर्वधे । तीर्थावेनी ॥
 नयो का भलतैसी थोरी । परी गगा जं अगिवारी ।
 तेजि तियें सागरी । प्रवेशु गा ॥
 तैसे सात्त्विका कर्मां किराटी । येता मोक्षायिये भेटो ।
 न पडे आडवाढी । ते वेगळे आहे ॥

It has been already discussed in the fourteenth Chapter that actions done or rather duties discharged with the aid of the Satwa attribute are bound to result in the achievement of the desired objects

Yet the Satwa Attribute is not by itself capable to lead on to salvation, and stands in need of something else which will fill up the deficiency, which if available will positively achieve liberation

For instance a cup of water, which is filtered, cold and scented with aroma is pleasant to drink no

doubt. Yet it cannot have the sanctity of the sacred water of the Ganges or other holy places.

A river, howsoever large it may be, can have access to the ocean, only when it secured the contact of the Ganges.

Similarly duties discharged with the aid of the Satwa Attribute will have the way unhindered to salvation, only when the deficiency is supplied on the way.

And this deficiency is disclosed in verse No. 23 of the XVII Chapter, which reads as under—

ॐ तत्सदिति निर्वेशो ब्रह्मणस्त्रिविधः स्मृतः ।
 ब्राह्मणास्तेन वेदाश्च यज्ञाश्च त्रिहिताः पुरा ॥
 तरी अनादि परब्रह्म । जें जगदादि विश्रामघाम ।
 तयाचे एक नाम । त्रिधा पै असे ॥
 ते कीर अनाम अजाती । परी अविद्यावर्गाचिये राती- ।
 माजी बोळसावया श्रुती । खूण केली ॥
 उपजलिया चाळकामी । नाव नाही तयापासी ।
 टाविलेनि नावेसी । ओ देत उठी ॥
 कष्टले मसारनिणे । जे देवो येतो गान्हाणे ।
 तया ओ दे नावे जेणे । तो सकेतु हा ॥
 ब्रह्माचा अयोला फिट्टावा । अद्वैतत्वे तो भेटावा ।
 ऐमा मय देखिला कणवा । वेदें बापें ॥
 मग दाविलेनि जेणे एके । ब्रह्म आळविले कवतिके ।
 मागां असत ठाके । पुढां उभें ॥
 परी निगमाचळिसरी । उपनिषदार्थनगरी ।
 भाराति जे ब्रह्माच्या येकाहारी । तयासीच कळे ॥

हेही असो प्रजापती । शक्ति जे सृष्टि करिती ।
 ते जया एका आवृत्ती । नामाचिये ॥
 पं सृष्टीचिया उपक्रमा- । पूर्वी गा विरोत्तमा ।
 वेडा ऐसा ब्रह्मा । एकला होता ॥
 मज ईश्वराते नोळखे । ना सृष्टीही करू न शके ।
 तो थोरू केला एके । नामें जेणे ॥

OM TAT SAT is the three syllabled Symbol indicating Brahman. And it is this symbolic expression that has given rise to the Brahmanas, Vedas and the sacrifices. And this three syllabled symbol is the deficiency.

Towards the close of the 17th Chapter, the translation of the foregoing Ovis has been already given in detail which need not be repeated here again. We only take the liberty to quote here the last para of the 17th Chapter as under —

The first offspring of the Infinite Brahman is Brahmadeo himself. He was mad and would not recognize his parent nor was he able to carry on the task of creation entrusted to him. He was, therefore initiated with the secret syllable OM TAT SAT by the Almighty Lord himself and that is being handed down by Brahmadeo from generation to generation to the mystics and saints since creation. And therefore, this is the link or secret symbol which will ultimately lead on to the Eternal Infinite on the return journey of the beings in the world or in other words by the process of Involution.

Thus the deficiency is explained, which is the heart of the Celestial Song which was so long kept hidden in all the chapter from the 4th to 10th. And therefore, in the verse “तद्विद्विप्रणिपातेन परिप्रश्नेन सेवया” of the 4th Chapter. This TAT (तत्) which signifies knowledge to be solicited from the learned preceptors means and includes the name of the Lord Viz. ओम् तत् सत् OM TAT SAT, which is finally disclosed in the 17th Chapter. And this name is only the symbolic expression, the learned preceptors being at liberty to impart to the disciples any suitable name by the constant practice of which the Brahman or the Almighty Lord will respond to the call of the devotees and will manifest himself before them, resulting in their ultimate immersion in the absolute substratum the Brahman.

Hence in the laconic words of the Great Loka Manya, this amounts to responsive cooperation on the part of the Brahman with the individual Soul.

At the end of 17th Chapter, after having explained in detail the proper use of the three syllabled Symbolic expression OM TAT SAT, the Lord concludes the Chapter with the verse :

अथ दया दत्त दत्त तपास्तप्त वृत्त च यत् ।
 असदिभ्युच्यते पार्थ न च तत्प्रेत्य नो इह ॥
 तेन कर्मजाते तेने । नाही ऐहिकीचे भोगणे ।
 तेथ परम ते कवणे । अपराचे ॥

Whatever is done without faith for mere outward show may it be any sacrifice, donation, penance

In the 2nd Chapter two path-ways leading to the gate-way of Providence are mentioned and the path of renunciation there, amounts to the path of knowledge, which implies wholesale abandonment of all activities Whereas in the 18th Chapter the word renunciation used in a restricted sense. The Lord explains the same as under -

काम्याना कर्मणा न्यास सन्यास कवयो विदुः ।

सर्वकर्मफलत्यागं प्राहुस्त्याग विचक्षणाः ।

The abandonment of those activities only which are undertaken to secure certain desired fruits, is styled as renunciation or (Sanyas) and the abandonment of all the fruits only accruing from all types of activities undertaken, is considered as giving up the activities in parts

N. B - In both the cases, however, those activities that have been forbidden, should never be resorted to Similarly in all cases, the egoism for the authorship of the activities, as well as the fruits accruing therefrom, should be discarded

न हि देहभूता शय्य कर्माण्यशेषतः ।

यस्तु कर्मफलत्यागी स त्यागीत्यभिधीयते ।

हिंसा शिला घातो । तरी वने सुगन्धत्व आणी ।

द्रव्यन साडूनि पाणी । वं राहे ते ।

आनि हा ना मय्यंगाची । मूनि साहोनि देहाची ।

ननी करिती कर्मांची । ते गावडे ना ।

Residing as they do in the human frame it is not possible for human beings to give up activities

altogether. He who gives up the fruits only accruing from his activities, is styled as the Tyagi (i e. he who renounces the fruits only of his activities & not the activities themselves)

Asafoetida, for instance, if it gets disgusted with its offensive smell, wherefrom, should it procure fragrance; Similarly water cannot be expected to give up its fluidity. Therefore, the saint says. Fools they are, who get disgusted with their activities, when they have chosen to reside in the Human Frame.

Further in the next few verses the Lord states that the means or ingredients for the achievement of any activities are five-fold as under:—

अधिष्ठानं तथा वर्तमानं च पृथग्विधम् ।
विनिर्घातश्च पृथग्विधश्चैव चैवान्न पञ्चमम् ।

The five-fold ingredients are as under—

There must be some suitable BASE or the SUBSTRATUM, the doer or the Author, the senses or the implement and the actions done or executed.

And to top them all, the Divine will to control these activities.

Then comes the crux or the heart of the Celestial Song—which is described as under :—

He who has lost all his egoism for the authorship of the activities and whose intellect is not solied in the execution of the actions, remains aloof from the results of his activities even when he kills any one in the act nor is he entrapped in the consequences of his action, thereafter. This is the highest condition of beatification demonstrating his actual merging in the vast ocean of the Brahman. The Saint says " On-lookers – standing by the sea shore, when the tides are rising observe waves rising one above the other and imagine the topmost waves dissolving in those lower below. Yet, with respect to the water underneath, it all amounts to Nothing "

The Goddess of Gold with a golden spear kills a demon also made of Gold Similarly the human frame in the case of a person who has attained beatification, appears to show some activities in the eyes of the spectators, and they designate him to be the author of these actions. Still with respect to the person himself, even if his actions seem to cause the destruction of the three worlds, he remain aloof from all the happenings, – because he is identified with the Brahman. In the 8th Chapter we have a parallel for this verse as under –

तस्मात्सर्वेषु कालेषु मामनुस्मर युध्य च ।
 मयि विराजतो बुद्धिर्मानिष्यत्यमराय ।
 दायां जे देतावे । का कानी हन ऐकावे ।
 मनी जे आदावे । वामावे बावे ।

ते आत वाहेरी आघवे । मोचि 'करुनि घालावे ।
 मग सर्वी काळी स्वभावे । मोचि आहे ।
 अर्जुना ऐसे जाहालिया । मग न मरिजे देह गेलिया ।
 माते सग्राम केलिया । भय काय तुज ॥
 तू मन बुद्धि साचेसी । माझिया स्वरूपी अपिसे ।
 तरी मातेचि गा पावसी । हे माझी भाक ॥
 ऐसे वैसेनि होये । ऐसा संशयो बर्ततू आहे ।
 तरी अभ्यासुनि आदि पाहे । मग नव्हे तरी बोये ॥

And therefore please keep me before your mind's eye at all times and do your duty. When your mind and intellect are concentrated on me there is not the remotest chance of missing me. This is God-realisation.

While making use of your senses, viz the eyes, the ears and mind or speech, keep me uppermost in your mind, inside as well as outside and do all your acts. When you keep me before your mind inside as well as outside, in all the foregoing acts then I shall be ever with you. Then you will not experience any death as such, even though the body cover is cast off. If it were so, where shall be the harm if you undertake fighting also.

If you concentrate your mind and intellect on my manifestations, then take it from me, surely you will be one with me.

If you entertain any doubts as to how this should happen then try the experiment first and if it fails, then you have grounds to be upset.

Further, in verse No. 18 we get the three incentives or ingredients for action-viz. (1) One who knows what is to be done (2) The object which is to be achieved by the action. (3) The knowledge as to how to proceed for the fulfilment of the action.

Then for the consummation of the act to be performed or for the performance of the Act itself are given, the doer, the action and the means, this is also a triad as in the incentives stated above. The varieties of knowledge itself, the varieties of action and the varieties of the Actor are dealt with from verses 19 to 29. Then we get the three types of Intellect as per Satwa, Rajas and Tamas domination. Similarly we have the three types of undaunted COURAGE and the three types of pleasure or happiness

न तदस्ति पृथिव्या वा दिवि देवेषु वा पुनः ।
सर्व प्रवृत्तिर्जैर्मुक्तं यदेभिः स्याति भिर्गुणैः ॥ १८-४०

Nothing exists in this world or in the heavens or in the kingdom of Gods, which is not contaminated by the three Gunas which are the inherent attributes of the prakrati or nature or creation in general. Then are discussed the outstanding virtues or characteristics of the four classes or castes in general Viz. the Brahmins, the warrior class, the merchant class and the class of servants in general.

ये ये कामेन्द्रियरतः मगिद्धि ममते नरः ।
स्वकमेन्द्रियरतः गिद्धि यथा विद्वति नक्षत्राणि ॥

"Duties discharged are as pleasures to the memory. He who keeps this ideal before his mind's eye attains the magnetic powers and majestic influence that are the natural accompaniments of those duties. And these are detailed by the saint as under -

अर्जुना जो यापरी । ते विहित कर्म स्वयं करी ।
तो मोक्षाच्या ऐलद्वारी । पैठा होय ॥

The Lord says to Arjuna

He who discharges his legitimate duties as stated above automatically stands at the entrance gate to the citadel of Liberation—

तैंमे आपुलियाविहिता । उपायो असे न विसरिता ।
ऐसा कीजे की जगताया । आभार पडे ॥
अगा जयाचे विहित । ते ईश्वराचे मनोगत ॥
म्हणोनि केलिया निघ्रान्त । तापडवि ता ॥

The Lord says

"It is, therefore that the legitimate duties should be discharged unhesitatingly and instantaneously with such intense ardour that the Lord himself should feel overwhelmed obliged by the acts of the devotee. Nay, the devotee should feel within himself that he is acting up to the commandments of the lord himself when he is discharging the duties devolving upon him. And thereafter the Devotee is sure to realise the manifestation of the Lord, automatically.

तया सर्वात्मिका ईश्वरा । स्वकर्मे कुसुमाचि वीरा ।
 पूजा केली होय अपारा । तोपा लागी ।
 म्हणोनि तिये पूजे । रिजलेनि आत्मराजे ।
 वैराग्यसिद्धि देहेजे । पसायतया ।

worshipping the over-lord with the wreath of flowers in the form of duties discharged, results in securing utmost satisfaction on the part of the Lord, who showers on the devotee his highest grace in the form of complete Renunciation.

"The true spirit of worship is the sacrifice, the entire effacement of the sense bewitched self, along with its desires & cravings, until the soul learns completely to confide and joyfully to possess its all in God. Man's career in life ought to be like the Railway journey of a little child, with no ticket to purchase, no berth to reserve, no luggage to book, no provisions to carry, seated on the mother's lap, nourished in the mother's bosom, secure in the mother's arms, restful under the mother's smiles, the Darling cherub is conveyed to its destination enjoying the freedom from care, that a sage would covet, and commanding a solicitousness and attention which a prince would envy. Truly the full formation of this child spirit is the perfection of the sadhan of worship."

Soundarya Lahari of Shankaracharya.

श्रेयाःश्रवणमो विगुण पराधर्मास्तदनुष्ठिताम् ।
 स्वधर्माविवर्जितं कर्म कुर्वन्त्यानीनि विविध्यम् ॥

the very nucleus of all desires in his mind has been thoroughly uprooted, he feels he is remaining quite aloof from the actions performed, even though he is the author of them all. And this is the result of the highest grace showered upon him by the Lord.

When one gets full control over one's mind, he develops a stage when all aspirations automatically wither away.

Achievements good or bad of the past life come to an end, through enjoyment or suffering as the case may be. And the aspirant puts an end to all fresh adventures. Thus he reaches the terminus of his return journey.

Just as water or wealth, which is stored up, is consumed by use or enjoyment and no efforts are made to recoup the loss:

ऐसी ब्रम्हा साम्यदशा । होय तेथ वीरेशा ।
मग श्रीगुरु आपेसा । भेटेचि गा ।

Duties discharged invite showers of grace from the overlord resulting in complete peace of mind on the part of the devotee. And then the devotee need not be any longer in search of the Divine Master; the master himself eagerly runs in quest of the Disciple.

मग आनिलिला पूजिमा । जेता उणीय साही चक्षमा ।
तैसे होय वीरोत्तमा । गुरुपा सया ।

Then just as the Moon is equipped with all the phases on the full moon day, the devotee is blessed by the Master with his showers of grace and at once the Sun of Realisation dawns on him, removing the clouds of ignorance enveloping the Devotee.

सिद्धिं प्राप्तो यथा ब्रह्म तथाप्नोति निबोध मे ।

समासेनैव कौन्तेय निष्ठा ज्ञानस्य या परा ।

please listen to me how one can attain self-realisation which is the culmination of the path of knowledge in the aggregate, when with the grace of the Lord, he secures the feeling of aloofness from the authorship of the actions performed by him.

N. B. : It will be in the fitness of things if we take the liberty to have an apt description of the Individual soul.

The soul is caught in the trap of the human frame, and lies embedded deep inside under heavy load of ideas & imaginations accumulated over a series of lives and deaths and an uphill effort has to be made to remove the load and secure the freedom of the soul from the bondage of the consciousness of the self, and everything attached to the self. And this is the achievement on the return journey during the process of Involution. (And this is verse no 54 of Chapter No XI which will be quoted thereafter.) Here also as in the sixth Chapter the saint classifies the disciples into two categories viz. those who immediately after receiving initiation from the Divine

Master are blessed with the dawn of the Sun of Realisation; and others who have to achieve the end after steadfast exertions on their part for the ultimate success. Instances of the first category are the mighty souls like. Adya Shankaracharya Shri. Dnyaneshwar Maharaj and the like. However majority of the saints belongs to the second category.

In the case of the majority who have to exert themselves for the achievement of the goal, directions are given as under :

बुद्ध्या विशद या युक्तो धृत्यात्मान नियम्य च ।
 शब्दादीन्विषयास्त्यक्त्वा रागद्वेषौ व्युदस्य च ।
 विविक्तसेवी लज्वाशी यतबावकायमानसः ।
 ध्यानयोगपरो नित्य वैराग्य समुपाश्रितः ।
 मूढोनीसर्वराग्यु । ज्ञानाभ्यासु तौ सभाग्यु ।
 करोति जाला योग्यु । आत्मलाभा ।
 ऐसी वैराग्याची अगी । बाणूनिया वज्रागी ।
 राजयोग तुरगी । आरुडला ।
 बरी आठ पांडलेदिठी । सानेघोरनिवटी ।
 तेबळी विवेकमुष्टी । ध्यानाचे खाडे ।

The following injunctions have been enjoined upon the seeker who is on the pathway to God.

- (1). His intellect should be absolutely pure
- (2). He must control his senses with undaunted courage.
- (3). He must be moderate in the use of his tongue.
- (4). He must be aloof from attachment or hatred,
- (5). He should select a secluded place for residence.

- (6). He must be temperate in taking food.
- (7). He must control the activities of his tongue, his body-cover and his mind.
- (8). He must remain ever engrossed in meditation.
- (9). He must possess perfect Renunciation.

He is lucky indeed says the saint, who pursues his study or practice of meditation with perfect reunciation and thus makes himself eligible for the attainment of Self-Realisation. Having put on this armour of Renunciation he is ready to mount the horse of Raja Yoga or rather start his practice of Raja-Yoga. And with the sword of knowledge in his hand cuts in twain all those that come in the way of his progress, as hindrances.

अहंकार बलं दर्पं कामं क्रोधं परिग्रहम् ।
विमुच्य निर्ममं शान्तो ब्रह्मभूयाय कल्पते ।

He stampedes on the way if he comes across any enemies like Egoism, Physical force, Pride, lust, wrath and last but not least acceptance of any donations. He enjoys perfect peace of mind and keeps himself detached from everything and thus qualifies himself for admission to the final state of Self-Realisation, which is described as under—

ब्रह्मभूतं प्रमत्तात्मा न शोचति न काङ्क्षति ।
तमः सर्वेषु भूतेषु मद्भूतिं लभते पराम् ॥

When there is achievement of self-realisation the seeker attains perfect peace of mind. He

then no reason to mourn over any loss nor has he grounds to aspire after anything. Then he gets the insight to look on all beings as the identity of his own self.

And all the foregoing attributes constitute essentially what can be called Genuine Devout Devotion unto me. And after the attainment of this type of genuine Devotion unto me, the seeker becomes eligible for my comprehensive aspect as under.

भक्त्या मामभिजानाति यावान्यद्वास्मि तत्त्वतः ।

ततो मा तत्त्वतो ज्ञात्वा विशते तदनन्तरम् ॥

Here we find all the three stages of enlightenment Viz God-Realisation. God-Intoxication and God-Immersion. With the aforesaid genuine devotion unto me says the Lord, the devotee is able to grasp the extent of my prowess and having realised my universal Aspect, merges in me in the end.

Compare :-

भक्त्या त्वनन्यया दास्य अहमेवविद्योऽर्जुन ।

ज्ञातुं द्रष्टुं च तत्त्वेन प्रवेष्टुं च परतप ॥

with such pointed devotion alone is it possible for the devotee to have my realisation accompanied with my universal aspect and then is he able to merge in me finally.

परि तेचि भवित ऐसी । पजॅन्याची गुटिका जॅसी ।

घरावांचूनि अनारिसी । गतीचि नेंणे ॥

The nature of the pointed Devotion is described in the above ovi.

The showers of rain when they leave the clouds have no other stoppage in the interval but to descend straight-way on the earth. Similarly the devotion should be a non-stop journey until the devotee gets finally drowned in me.

Having attained this stage if he still continues to reside in the Human frame, says the Lord, all his activities thereafter amount to activities on the part of the Lord himself.

किबहुता ऐसे निखळ । मीपण जोडे तया फळ ।
 सेवूनि वेली वेल्हाळ । नमयोगाची ते ॥
 पै नमयोगिया विरीटी । चक्रवर्तीच्या मुकुटी ।
 मी चिद्रत्न ते साठोवाटी । होय तो माता ॥
 की नमयोगप्रासादाचा । बळसु जो हा मोसाचा ।
 तयावरील अवकाशाचा । उवाचो जाला तो ॥
 नाना ससार आदधी । नमयोग वाट बरवी ।
 जोडिली ते मदक्यगावी । पैटी जालीसे ॥
 हे असो नमयोगवांचे । तेणे भक्तिविग्दागे ।
 मी स्वानंदोदघी वेगें । ठाविला की ना ॥
 हा टायवरी सुवर्मा । नमयोगी आहे महिमा ।
 म्हणोनि वेळोवेळीं तुम्हां । सांगतो आम्ही ॥

Here the saint very graphically recapitulates the path of action to be followed by the Devotee until at last he merges in the Almighty Lord or in the Infinite Brahman.

By catching hold of the creeping plant of the path of Action, the devotee finally succeeds in reaping the fruit, at the end of it, which is nothing but the Brahman itself. Or by putting on the crown of the path of Action, the Devotee secures the jewel on the crest of the crown, which is nothing but the Almighty Lord himself.

Or by resorting to the palace of the path of Action, the Devotee ascends to the tower of the same and finds ample space on top of it, which is nothing but Brahman itself.

Or in the Dense forest of this mundane existence he catches the bylane of the path of action and by pursuing the same he reaches the capital town which is again nothing but the Brahman itself.

Or again he pursues the stream of the path of action, joins the Ganges of Devotion and finds access to the ocean of self realisation, which is the same as the Almighty Lord himself. This is the majestic grandeur of the path of Action, and hence it is says the Lord to Arjuna, that it is recommended time & again to the Devotees to follow. And we find again the description of the same path as under

सर्वकर्माणि सदा कुर्वन्तो मद्व्यपाश्रयः ।

मत्प्रसादादवाप्नोति शाश्वत पदमव्ययम् ॥

चेतसा सर्वकर्माणि मयि सन्त्यस्य मत्परः ।

युद्धियोगमुपाश्रित्य मच्चित्तः सततं भव ॥

मच्चित्त. सर्वदुर्गाणि मत्प्रसादात्तरिप्यसि ।
 अथ चेत्त्वमहंकारात्त श्रोष्यसि विनङ्क्ष्यसि ॥
 यदहंकारमाश्रित्य न योत्स्य इति मन्यसे ।
 मिथ्यैष व्यवसायस्ते प्रकृतिस्त्वां नियोक्ष्यति ॥
 स्वभावजेन कौन्तेय निबद्धः स्वेन कर्मणा ।
 कर्तुं नेच्छसि यन्मोहात्करिष्यस्यवशोऽपि तत् ।
 मन्मना भव मद्भक्तो मद्या जी मा नमस्कुरु ।
 मामेवैष्यसि सत्य ते प्रतिजाने प्रियोऽसि मे ।
 सर्वधर्मान्परित्यज्य मामेकं शरणं ब्रज ।
 अहं त्वा सर्वपापेभ्यो मोक्षयिष्यामि मा शुचः ।

The Lord says to Arjun,

Please discharge your duties under my patronage.
 Then through my my grace you will attain my
 eternal Abode Root out all your activities from
 your mind and resign them all unto me -- Naturally
 the vacuum of your mind and intellect will be
 occupied by the lord fully and perpetually.

When your mind is absorbed in the Lord,
 Divine grace will save you from all obstacles. And
 beware you are destined to perish if you disobey
 my injunctions through your egoism 58

If you venture to desist from fighting through
 egoism, your endeavour is futile in that direction,
 because your very nature will compel you to do so,
 in spite of you. 59

By your actions in your past life you are bound
 by nature to act in the living present. And even if

you mean to desist from them, you will be compelled to do the acts because of your helpless condition 60

The Almighty Lord is pervading the hearts of all beings and it is He who is controlling and compelling them to turn round a rotating wheel due to their ignorance. 61

Please, therefore, resign yourselves entirely to the mercy of the Lord, and then through his divine grace you will be blessed with eternal peace and complete beatification. 62

This is the innermost secret of my heart which I have revealed unto you, says the Lord to Arjuna, and then advises him to try to grasp it thoroughly and act according to the bidding of the same. 63

The Lord says to Arjun please listen to my divine advice which is the innermost secret of all secrets and I am doing this only because you are the nearest to my heart. 64

The Lord says, take it from me on oath as you are the nearest to my heart, that you will finally merge in me when the vacuum of your mind is thoroughly occupied by me, when your devotion has attained the maximum temperature, when you offer everything unto me, and lastly to top this all when you choose complete self-surrender unto me 65

Give up all other activities says the Lord unto Arjun and commands him further to stick to only one and that of complete self surrender to the Lord. Then the Lord will be pleased to wash off all his sins and guarantee his final deliverance from bondage amounting to actual merger.

Compare Dasbodha :

सर्वं सांडूनि शोधा मजला । ऐसे देवचि बोलिला ।
लोकीशब्द अमान्य केला । भगवंताचा ।
म्हणोनि नाना दु खे भोगिती ।

Give up all other activities and be in search of Almighty Lord alone. says the Lord, and people have disobeyed the words of the Lord and hence their sufferings.

ऐसे हे अध्याय गीतेचे । हे चढते भूमीचे आये ।
अध्यावो अध्यायाते प्रसवे । अभिप्रावो अभिप्रायाते विये ।

The saint says the Chapters of the song are like rising steps of the ladder and further the verses as well as the Chapters are like an inflorescence, one giving rise to the other and in this light verse No. 66 comes after verse No 45. leaving 21 verses in-between.

स्वे स्वे वर्मश्रमिस्तः and सर्वं कर्मान् परित्यज्य

And hence verse No 66 cannot be considered as isolated from all other verses and it means and includes the essence of all the foregoing verses from Nos 45 to 65 And to top this all it comes after :

संन्यासश्च सद्भक्त्यो ।

And therefore it means nothing else than or nothing short of self-surrender on the part of the devotee.

No. 65 is a prescription and No 66 is a prohibition or an injunction. The word Dharma means an act or action and not religion. The saint comments the verse as under—

पे आपुलेनि भेदेविण । माझे जाणिजे एकपण ।
 तयाचि नाव शरण । मज येणे गा ।
 जैसे घटाचेनिनाशे । गगनी गगन प्रवेशे ।
 मज शरण येणे तैसे । ऐक्य करी ।
 सुवर्णमणी सोनिया । ये कल्लोळु जैसा पाण्या ।
 तैसा मज धनजया । शरण ये तू

A devotee's self-surrender unto God means establishing identity with the Lord, without the least phase of separateness on the part of the devotee himself.

For instance " when an earthen vessel is broken to pieces, the air inside immediately unites with the air outside the Jar. or just as a wave rises over the surface of water, no doubt, yet it consists of the same quality of water as that of the original water itself. Or just as a bead of gold is made out of a lump of Gold; similarly the Lord exhorts Arjun to surrender himself unto the Lord and be one with the Lord as in the aforesaid cases of air, water and gold. This amounts to complete merger on the part of the

devotee with respect to the Lord or the absolute Brahman and this is the final verdict of the celestial song, and signalises the end of the same.

Then follow the directions regarding the communication of this story to non-believers in the Lord and to the believers in the Lord and finally comes the chorus

यत्र योगेश्वर कृष्णः यत्र पार्थोऽनुर्धरः ।
तत्र श्रीविजयो भूतिर्धुवा नीतिर्मतिर्मम ।

which is the last and which terminates the celestial song. Wherever stand together the Lord Shri Krishna and Arjuna as the Master and the disciple, there will be found, says Sanjaya, wealth, victory, affluence and transparent virtue

The End

APPENDIX - A

Princes of the Divine Hierarchy

INTRODUCTORY

न तद्भासयते सूर्यो न शशाको न पावकः ।
यद्गत्वा न निवर्तन्ते तद्धाम परमं मम ॥

In the fifteenth chapter of the Song, the Lord says, " Neither the Sun, the Moon, nor fire, can illumine my original abode; and those aspirants, that can arrive at the Destination and finally merge in me do escape the cycle of births and deaths for ever."

In reply to this statement of the Lord, the disciple says as under :

त ते देवेसि स्वयं एक होती । मग मांघीते जे न येती ।
ते देवेसी भिन्न आयी । की अभिन्न जी ॥
जरी भिन्नचि अनादिसिद्ध । तरी न येती हें असबद्ध ।
नातरी तूचि ते स्वभावे । तरी कोणें कोणासि मिळावें ।
आपणयासी आपण रुपावे । शस्त्रें वेवी ? ॥
तरी कोण गा ते तूते । पावोनि न येती माघीते ।
हे विद्वतोमुखा माते । बुझावी जी ॥

In the case of those that merge in you and thereby escape the cycle of births and deaths, please

say whether they were originally the same as you are, or were different from you.

If they were originally different from you, then it is not consistent to hold that they escape the cycle of births and deaths. And in the alternative, if they were the same as you are, then it is redundant to hold that they merge in you.

Can we say that a weapon strikes its own self? Please, therefore, make it clear as to who they are, who after merger, forever escape the cycle of births and deaths

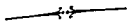
इये आक्षेपी अर्जुनाचा । तो शिरोमणी सर्वज्ञाचा ।
 तोपला दोघ शिष्याचा । देखोनिया ।
 मग म्हणे या महामती । माते पावोनि नयेती पुढती ।
 ते भिन्नाभिन्न रीती । आहाती दीगही ।
 जे विवेके खोली पाहिले । तरी मो तेच ते सहजे ।
 ना आहाचवाहाच तरी दुजे । एमेही गमती ।
 जसे पाणिमावरी वेगळ । तळपता दिसती बल्लोळ ।
 येहवी तरी निश्चिळ । पाणिचि ते ।
 या मुवणहिनि आने । ऐणी गमती मित्रे ।
 मग पाहिले तव सोने । अवघेचि ते ।
 तंमे ज्ञानाभिपे दिटी । मजती अभिप्रचि ते विरीटी ।
 येर भिन्नपण ते उटी । अज्ञानास्तव ।

The Lord was satisfied at the appropriate and searching objection raised by the disciple and said to him in reply as under —

Those that approach me and escape the cycle of births and deaths do appear to be originally two different entities; yet, if they are intrinsically tested, they are one with me.

Just as the ripples or surges on a surface of water appear to be different from the water as well as from one another, still they consist entirely of the same composition. Similarly an eye of intuition finds them to be identical with me though they appear to be different to a naked eye.

In illustration of this statement, the following lives of transcendental personality will serve as a guide :



Princes of the Divine Hierarchy

His Holiness Adya Shri Shankaracharya

Shri Shankaracharya was out and out a Sanyasin or in fact renunciation personified.

Yet under the cloak of a Sanyasin, he did the work of many long lives

Within a short span of hardly twenty years of his active life, he had whipped the false Buddhistic ideology beyond the shores of our country and had reintegrated the philosophical thoughts of the Upanishadas in the then Aryavarta. It can be very well understood what a colossal work it must have been for any single man to undertake in those days, when modern conveniences of mechanical transport and instruments of propaganda were unknown.

As depicted by Swami Chinmayanand, he had brought into his work, his literary dexterity both in prose and poetry and at his hands, under the heat of his fervent ideals, the great Sanskrit language became almost plastic. He could mould it into any shape and into any form.

We cannot do better than quote Pandit Nehru in respect of the achievements of Shankaracharya.

In the eighth century Shankaracharya, one of the greatest of India's philosophers, started religious orders or Maths for Hindu Sanyasins or monks. This was an adoption of the old Buddhistic practice of the Sangha. Previously, there had been no such organizations of the Sanyasins in Brahmanism, although groups of them existed.

Shankaracharya accepted the Brahmanical Organization of social life on the caste basis, as representing the collective experience and wisdom of the race. He held that any person belonging to any caste could attain the highest knowledge. He was a man of amazing energy and vast activity. He was no escapist retiring into his shell or into a corner of the forest, seeking his own individual perfection, and oblivious to what happened to others.

Born in the Malbar in the far South of India, he travelled incessantly all over India meeting innumerable people, arguing, debating, reasoning, convincing and filling them with a part of his own fervour, and tremendous vitality. He was evidently a man who was intensely conscious of his mission, a man who looked upon the whole of India from Cape Comorin to the Himalayas as his field of action and as something that held together culturally and was infused by the same spirit, though this might take many external forms. He strove hard to synthesize the diverse currents that were troubling the mind of

India of his day and to build a unity of outlook out of that diversity.

In a brief life of thirtytwo years, he did the work of many long lives and left such an impress of his powerful mind and rich personality on India that it is very evident today.

He was a curious mixture of a philosopher and a scholar, an agnostic and a mystic a poet and a saint and in addition to all this, a practical reformer and an able organizer.

We shall cite here an instance of his childhood before we conclude the story of his life.

Shankar was hardly four or five years when his father had to go away from the village he lived in, on a certain errand. He was performing daily the worship of a deity outside the village. He therefore, entrusted the task to his wife during his absence. His wife one day was engaged at home and requested the little child to do the job. Shanker went to the temple equipped with the paraphernalia, i.e articles necessary for the worship. At the end of the worship, the child offered the cup of milk to the deity. The deity would not act up to his wishes. Shankar at once began to cry aloud requesting the deity the reason why she was declining the offer that day when on preceding occasions she never did so either with his father or his mother. The deity being

pleased with the cry of the tiny child drank up the whole of the cup without leaving half for the child to sip Shankar again broke forth in a loud cry that she had left nothing for his share The deity offered the child to suck up milk from her breast And Lo ! the child was suddenly transformed into a full fledged poet when he prayed as under

तव स्तन्यमये धरणिघ्नर कन्ये हृदयत ।
 पय पारावार प्रवहति सारस्वतमिव ॥
 दयावत्यादत्त ब्रविडशिशुरास्वाद्य तवयत ।
 कवीना प्रीढानामजनि कमनीय कवियता ॥

सौंदर्य लहरी -

Oh ye daughter of the Himalayas the flow of milk from your breast is flooded with the Goddess of learning incarnate As it has happened that having tested this milk offered by you so kindly unto me, I am transformed into a poet of whom even the top-most poets have been jealous

All honour and glory to the Late Pandit Nehru, that inspite of his personal education in England he has bestowed the highest encomiums on Shri Shankaracharya and painted a graphic picture of his achievements



Princes of the Divine Hierarchy

II Swami Ramdas

Ramdas was born on Chaitra shudha Navami Shaka 1530 (1608 A. D.), three years after his elder brother was born. In 1620 A. D. when Ramdas was 12 years old, he ran away from his house to Takali near Nasik. The story runs as under.

Ramdas had decided not to get himself married. His mother, however, pressed him very much to marry and requested him at least to be prepared to stand on the altar, that is specially erected for the function and on which the bride and the bridegroom are made to stand before they are ceremoniously declared to be in wedlock by the officiating priests. Ramdas not to displease his mother gave his consent to stand on the altar. He obeyed the dictation of his mother to a letter no doubt, but as soon as the priests started singing the Psalms, he swiftly left the altar and ran away in the forest until at last he reached Takali, his destination, where he practised penance for 12 long years. The Lord was pleased with the severe austerities of his rigid life, and Ramdas ultimately gained the fruit of his penance viz., the perpetual vision of the Lord. He devoted thereafter the next 12 years of his life to travelling all over the country i. e. from 1632 to 1644 A. D.

and at last he came and settled on the banks of the Krishna River. During this period he had established one thousand and one hundred Maths all over the country. In 1648, he erected a temple at Chaphal and set up therein the image of Shri Ram which he had discovered and obtained from the deep waters of the Krishna River near Angapur. Then comes a very important matter. Shivaji, the founder of the Maratha Empire, was initiated by Ramdas in 1649 A. D at Singhanwadi on Vaishakh Shudh Navami, Thursday. Now the point of greatest importance of the history of Maharashtra is the initiation of Shivaji when he had passed just out of his teens and was only beginning his political career, and, therefore, the whole development of Shivaji's political achievements has to be traced to the inspiration that he received from his Master Ramdas. And thus we find that the success of Shivaji means and includes the success of Ramdas in stemming the tide of the growing Ismalic Influence on Maharashtra.

The crowning stroke of the several political achievements was the strategic disposal of Afzulkhan at Pratapgad which was entirely due to the inspiration that Shivaji received from Ramdas.

Lokmanya Tilak

The great Lokmanya had put on the overcoat of a Karmayogin, yet internally he was a man of perfect renunciation. Apart from his profound scholarship, he observed the tenets of the Bhagvadgita in his day-to-day life to such an extent that we do not mean any exaggeration when we say that the Bhagvadgita had assumed the human form of Lokmanya, to demonstrate to the world that the Gita is for action in life and not for scholastic pursuit in the mere disquisition and splitting of words. He was designated as the Father of Indian Unrest by Sir Valentine Chirol but by the same epithet for a patriot like Lokmanya, if Sir Valentine were an Indian, he would mean that Lokmanya had awakened the consciousness for independence in the sleeping India of those times.

The Arctic Home in the Vedas which Tilak conceived during his term at the Yeravada Jail was published in 1903. The major portion of the book was written in the summer of 1902 at Sinhgad Tilak used to dictate for hours on end, except when he was seized by a new line of thought, when writing was stopped for long stretches. As H. W. Navinson remarked, apart from its value to Vedic Research,

the book is significant because it appeared in the midst of the author's diverse persecution, when money, reputation, influence and every thing else were at stake, and few men would have had the courage to spare a thought either for sacred books or arctic circles. This is a Sthita-Pradnya "स्थितप्रज्ञ" as depicted by the Bhagvadgita and upheld by Navinson. Lastly, we shall have a word for the special chapter devoted by the Lokmanya in his famous work on Gita to establish the sequence of the chapters in succession.

The great Lokmanya Tilak has, in his famous work on the Bhagvatgita "The Gita Rahasya" devoted a special chapter to establish the sequence of Gita Chapters in succession.

While commenting on a work like Gita, the very fact that he was driven to devote a special chapter for this purpose clearly indicates that he must have been confronted with a genuine difficulty to pursue the construction of the poem from chapter to chapter on one hand, and simultaneously must have had, to face the danger of finding fault with the formidable Divine Personality of Maharshi Veda Vyasa on the other.

Lokmanya (The Gladstone of India on Church and State) was undaunted in courage and had never refrained from levelling an attack on the opponent,

Adya Shri Shankaracharya, Shri Swami Ramadas and Lokmanya Tilak

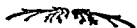
With his army of Sanyasins, Adya Shankaracharya saved Bharat of those times from the Buddhist influence and established the philosophical thoughts of the Upanishads in our country. With his army of Brahmacharyns, Swami Ramdas in his days did the same type of work and saved Maharashtra from the inroads of the Mahomedans bearing the torch of the Ismalic Influence. Towards the latter half of the 19th century was born the great Lokmanya Tilak, who with his army of House holders awakened the consciousness of independence in the sleeping India during the British regime. His pen ran in philosophy as vigorously as it did in politics. He was like Gladstone at the helm of affairs in the State as well as in the Church. He had put on the cloak of a Karmayogin no doubt yet he had the fire of perfect renunciation within. And in his last days he was revered by the whole country as the uncrowned king of India. We mean no exaggeration when we say that Lokmanya was the Karma-Yogi or the Path of Action of the Bhagvadgita personified. In fact he was a century man after Swami Ramdas to have awakened the consciousness of independence in the sleeping India during the British Regime.

All these three were great fighters and they had to man their armies according to circumstances.

Shankaracharya had to face the Buddhistic monks and he had chosen Sanyasins as his lieutenants. Ramdas had selected Brahmacharyns as his soldiers. Lokmanya had his recruits from the House-holders. The Sanyasins of Shankaracharya, therefore, cannot be compared to the Sanyasins of the Present day.

Lokmany Tilak also would have gladly put on the Costume of a Sanyasin, if he had been born in Kerala twelve hundred years ago.

Lastly, a word about the pious consort of this great Lokmanya and we close. The Biographer says "Satyabhamabai was hardly ten years, when she was married to Mr. Tilak. And for Satyabhamabai, her home was her World and her husband her God



Princes of the Divine Hierarchy

IV Goroba, the Potter

Goroba, the potter or Gora Kumbhar occupied a very high rank in the galaxy of the Saints of Pandharpur headed by Shri Dnyanadeo Maharaj. It was God-Intoxication indeed moving in the Human Form of Goroba, the potter. The following event in his life will illustrate this statement graphically :

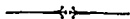
Goroba was always pursuing his profession for his maintenance and was one day preparing mud for his pitchers. The mud required to be trodden under feet for a very long time to stand the test for shaping the pitchers on the wheel. While he was thus engrossed in this act, with his mind riveted on the Lord as usual, his wife went out for fetching water from the stream nearby, leaving her child to the care of her husband.

The child unwittingly crawled up to the mud that was being trodden under feet by Goroba. And not noticing what had happened, carried on his trodding with his mind perfectly riveted on the Lord. And Lo ! the child was being squeezed along with the mud. By the time the wife returned with the water vessel she screamed aloud at the sight of the blood flowing out from the pile of mud Goroba

came to consciousness at the loud screaming of his wife, but alas ! to no purpose. The child was already dead and gone. It is needless to say what happened further in the family with respect to his wife.

Goroba remained perfectly unconcerned with the happening. He was intoxicated with the vision of the Lord.

In the assemblage of the Saints at Pandharpur the mighty Saint Shri Dnyaneshwar Maharaj selected Goroba, the Potter to test the various Saints assembled, if they had acquired perfection in the line. While testing the Saints, Goroba happened to pat Namdeo on the head as he did with all others assembled there. Namdeo resented the act of Goroba and Goroba declared to the assembly that Namdeo was still a novice in the line.



V The Founder of the Inchgeri Sampradaya

The mighty saint of Umadi Shri Sadguru Samarth Bhausaheb Maharaj was like Swami Ramdas born on the Chaitra Shudha Navami or Ramnavami of the year 1843 A. D. The likeness is not confined only to the date of birth of Shri Swami Ramdas but we have no hesitation to state that he lived the ideal life as painted by Swami Ramdas in his famous work, the Dasbodha which is more or less the autobiography of Swami Ramdas himself. He passed away on the 29th January 1914.

The disciple is usually in search of the Master. Yet we can say that like Dnyanadeo and Nivrutti Nath, the Master was in search of the disciple in the case of Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj. In the small village of Umadi lies on the outskirts a temple dedicated to God Hanuman. Bhausaheb used always to visit this temple with all equipment necessary for the worship of the deity. May it be by chance or may it be with purpose, that Guruling Jangam Maharaj of Nimbargi had directed his disciple Raghunathpriya Sadhu Maharaj to shift to this temple, from Songi his original resort, 3 miles away from Umadi.

The Sadhu Maharaj used to appreciate the devotional worship carried on by Bhausaheb from

day to day in very encouraging terms, with the result that Bhausaheb began to feel a sort of affinity for Sadhu Maharaj. Naturally Bhausaheb voluntarily visited Sadhu Maharaj time and again at his residence in the temple. One day Sadhu Maharaj persuaded Bhausaheb to go to Nimbargi and pay homage to Nimbargi Maharaj. Nimbargi Maharaj directed Sadhu Maharaj to initiate Bhausaheb. And Lo ! the result was that Bhausaheb day in and day out meditated on the " Name of the Lord " for 36 years of his life next, silently, without any ostentation, and without the slightest negligence to the household duties devolving upon him. Thus we find a solitary instance in Bhausaheb Maharaj of a house-holder disciple transformed into a full-fledged mystic and a Saint at his own residence with the remarkable secrecy of his meditation, so much so, that to use his own proverb or phraseology the right hand did not know what the left hand was doing in his case.

N. B. : Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj taught lessons to his disciples silently by his actions and never by any words of mouth

A master is known from his disciple and we mean no exaggeration when we say that Shri Gurudco Ranade, the famous Author of the Constructive Survey of the Upanishadic Philosophy was to Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj as Shri Dnyanadeo was to Shri Nivrutti Nath or as Swami Vivekanand was to Shri Ramkrishna Paramahansa.

Bhausahab Maharaj had a number of disciples of whom four came to prominence viz, Shri S. S. Amburao Maharaj of Inchgeri, Shri S S Girimalleshwar Maharaj of Jamkhandi, Shri Sidharameshwar Maharaj of Pathari and last but not the least and the youngest amongst the lot Shri Gurudeo Dr. R. D. Ranade of Nimbai, late vice-chancellor of the Allahabad University.

The writer of this volume also had the good luck of being associated in the list of the disciples of Shri Bhausahab through the grace of Shri Gurudeo Ranade who had introduced him to Shri Bhausahab Maharaj on the 23rd December 1912 at the time of the Margashirsha Saptah, at Inchgeri

Shri S. S. Amburao Maharaj of Inchgeri

Shri Amburao Maharaj was styled as the chosen disciple of Shri Bhausahab Maharaj. He was the right hand of his master as Kalyan was to Swami Ramdas.

Meditation was, as it were, his only passion or rather a sine-qua non for him; so much so that he elicited nothing but applause from his revered master for his exertions. On top of everything else, the attachment of the master towards this disciple, attained such high temper that it culminated in the selection of Inchgeri as the site for the construction of the Math. And the disciple prevailed upon his

sister's son to offer a portion of his land to Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj for the construction.

He was born in 1857, the year of the war of Independence, later styled by the Rulers as the Indian Mutiny due to its failure. He passed away on the 22nd December 1933. Later his disciples constructed his Samadhi and Math after his name.

He has a number of disciples amongst the educated class. And the present writer had the good luck of being in close association with him for nearly a month every year during the last fifteen years of his life.

Besides, Mr. Gokhale has been staying in this Math for the last eighteen years and odd and has been looking after it as the Sole Trustee on behalf of Government.

II S. S. Girimalleshwar Maharaj of Jamkhandi

Shri Girimalleshwar Maharaj at his own cost constructed the temple and the audience hall at Inchgeri and thus enabled his master Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj to go to Pandharpur in fulfilment of the vow sworn by him.

Later when Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj passed away in 1914, Shri Girimalleshwar Maharaj constructed the Samadhi of the Master and dismantling the original audience hall, erected another in its place.

as a common hall for both the temples or Samadhis. At this time, he sustained heavy losses in his cotton business and inspite of frightening odds, staked his all in all for the construction and virtually turned a begger thereafter. He passed away in 1934 January just one month after Shri Amburao Maharaj had departed.

III Shri Sidharameshwar Maharaj of Pathari.

Shri Sidharameshwar Maharaj as a young boy visited Shri Bhausahab Maharaj on a Saturday. Bhausahab Maharaj intuitively knew that the young boy promised to become a high soul in the future and blessed him on the same day. Ever since that time Shri Bhausahab Maharaj included Saturday in the list of the days for Initiation. And Monday, Thursday and Saturday were three days of the week set apart for Initiation.

Shri Sidharameshwar Maharaj has a number of disciples in Bombay and around in particular, and his Samadhi and Math are erected by his disciples at Inchgeri.

Shri Ganpatrao Maharaj of Kannur is looking after the temple and the Math.

Shri Nisarga Datta Maharaj, Shri Datta Maharaj and Shri Kadsiddheshwar Swami have been carrying on the mission of their revered Master. The late Govindrao Pathare also carried on the mission during his life-time.

IV Shri Narasappa Maharaj Bagewadikar

Narasappa Maharaj was a disciple of high achievements in spiritual experiences. Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj used to say that pursuit of spirituality brought success in worldly life also.

Mr. B D Jatti, B A LL B, a pleader from Jamkhandi and a disciple of Narasappa Maharaj was elevated to the position of the Chief Minister of Mysore State in 1959.

His disciples have erected his Samadhi and Math at Yalhatti, a distance of about 12 miles from Jamkhandi This was due to the efforts of Mr. Jatti

V Shrimati S. S. Shivalingavva of Jath

Amongst the female disciples of Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj, Shivalingavva gained reputation of a very high order. After self-realisation, she used to say that a son was born of her and she has composed a Psalm to narrate this incident.

VI Dr. R. D. Ranade of Nimbal, later known as Shri Gurudeo Ranadesaheb of Nimbal

While as a young school going boy, Shri Gurudeo was initiated by Shri Bhausaheb Maharaj at Jamkhandi. He believed that meditation brought success in his High School career and, therefore, he meditated as well as he pursued his school and college careers.

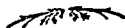
Shri Bhausahab Maharaj used to say about this disciple that he would spread the fame and glory of his master beyond the seas.

Amongst his several works, the Constructive Survey of Upanishdic Philosophy gained for him the reputation of world fame.

As regards spiritual experiences, he always kept silent, over the matter. Yet when accosted by a friend persistently he happened to remark that in his works, he had not touched any references about other mystics which he had not experienced himself

His Samadhi and Ashram are at Nimbai R. S.

Born as an ordinary mortal at Jamkhandi on the 3rd July 1886, Shri Gurudeo passed away as a mystic and a Saint at Nimbai on the 6th June 1957.



VI Saint Dnyaneshwar Maharaj, the famous commentator of the Bhagvadgita in Marathi

It is the disciple who is generally in search of the master. Dnyaneshwar Maharaj like Bhausaheb Maharaj of Umadi, is an exception to this general procedure. The life-story of this Saint will be illuminating before we proceed further with his remarkable activities

They are three brothers and one sister, the offsprings of a Saint or Sanyasin turned householder at the command of his preceptor. However, this incident brought calumny from the orthodox society on the children when they were staying with their parents at Alandi. The orthodox Brahmins refused to perform the thread ceremony of the three brothers at Alandi. Their parents, therefore, took the children to Nasik and Tryambakeshwar, where Vithalpant, the father practised penance for a while. One day while the family was roaming about in the forest, a tiger jumped upon them and simultaneously they were caught in a whirlwind. They all dispersed and the eldest brother Nivruttinath missing the company was left alone in the jungle. However, he found his way to a cave nearby where Saint Gahininath was waiting for his arrival. He was taken inside and was initiated

by this Preceptor. The tiger as well as the whirlwind proved only a pretext to attract the disciple towards the Master.

A few days later, Nivriddhinath left the cave and joined his parents. Thereafter he initiated his brothers as well as the sister. The family returned thereafter to Alandi. A charter of purification was necessary before the thread ceremony could be performed. The parents as directed by the Brahmins had already left the children forlorn at Alandi. The children thereafter made their way to Paithan where the inveterate orthodox Brahmins were humbled down by Dnyaneshwar by demonstrating certain miracles and the Brahmins declared in one voice that they were moving gods on earth and needed no charter of purification from them. Thereafter the party went to Nevase on their way back to Alandi where Dnyaneshwar Maharaj dictated his commentary on the Shri Gesta and Sacchidanand Baba who was restored to life by Shri Dnyaneshwar served as an amanuensis. Shri Dnyaneshwar Maharaj then went to Pandharpur and other places on a pilgrimage and finally declared his intention at Pandharpur to pass away at Alandi a fortnight later.

APPENDIX-B Part I

Extolling Dnyaneshwari at the cost of the Bhagvadgita.

Shri Dnyaneshwari, according to Prof W B. Patwardhan, is the greatest work in the Marathi language ever written. The work from the literary side is so exquisite, so beautiful, so highly poetic, so perspicuous and lucid in style, so sublime in tone that the reader is simply fascinated, floats rapturously on the crest of the flow and lost in the cadence of the rhythm and the sweet insinuating harmonies, till all is thanks-giving and thought is not.

It is not surprising, therefore, that it has been customary with the Marathi knowing public to extol Dnyaneshwari even at the cost of the Celestial Song-Shrimad Bhagvadgita.

Yet when Sanskrit scholars and students of Dnyaneshwari at times imitate the Marathi knowing public may be in the heat of enthusiasm, in the same strain, their imitation appears a little surprising

मूलप्रंथीषिवा मंस्तुता । वरि मन्हाठी नीट पढता ।
अभिप्राय मानलिया उचिता । वचन घूमि हें न खोजवे ॥ १०-४३
जेंत अंगावेनि सुदरपणे । लेजिया आगनि होय लेणे ।
तेथ अलवारिलें वचन वचणे । हें निवंचेना ॥ १०-४४

The Saint, with respect to his own commentary says as under :

If the original Sankrit and the Marathi commentary are seen eye to eye, it would be rather difficult to determine which is the original. For instance, if a paragon of beauty is bedecked with a lovely ornament, it passes imagination to judge which of the two is the decoration. Cf (Compare) Kalidas.

कण्ठस्य तस्या स्तनवन्धुरस्य मुखकलापस्य च निस्तलस्य ।
अन्योन्यशोभाजननात् बभूव साधारणो भूषणभूष्यभावः ॥

King Aja's wife, Indumati had worn a pearl necklace The Poet says, we cannot say, which was the decoration, the breast of Indumati or the pearl necklace.

With regard to the composition of the commentary, the Saint says in the thirteenth chapter as under :

माणा श्लोकाचेनि अर्धाघे । ऐसे मागिते श्रीमुकुदे ।
ना उफराटी इवें ज्ञानपदे । तेचि अज्ञान ॥ १३-८५२ ।
म्हणोनि इया बाहणी । केली म्यां उपलवणी ।
वाचूनि दुष्टा मेळऊनि पाणी । पार कीजे ? ॥ ५३
तैसे जी न बडबडी । पदाची थोर न साडी ।
मूढध्वनीं बिये वाडी । निमित्त जाह्यो ॥ ५४
तूते श्रीमुरारी । म्हणितले प्रगट करी ।
जे अभिप्राय गहरी । सांगिते यागही ॥ १३-८५६

In the foregoing verses, the Lord has mentioned the attributes of knowledge and has referred to Ignorance as being their reverse.

And I have followed the same lines for my comments and hence my dilatation of the subject is not like the increasing of the quantity of milk by adding water to it. I have conveyed the exact import of the words and, therefore, my comments are not a mere loose rendering, as I have been instrumental in logically expanding the meaning of the original verses to bring out their full connotation. And this I have done as commanded by the Lord to expound the hidden significance of his advice.

Regarding the rendering of the Gita in Marathi the Saint states in the fourteenth chapter as under :

तरी आता येणे प्रसादें । विन्यासे विदग्धें ।

मूळशास्त्रपदें । वाखाणीन ॥ १४-२९

With these blessings from the Master, I feel encouraged to explain the original Sanskrit scientific expressions in flowery and lucid terms in the Marathi language.

The Saint further states " as coupled with the blessings of my Master, it is not only the command of the Lord but further than this, it is the Saying of the Lord Himself. "

In the seventeenth chapter, the Saint states as under—

ऐसा हा अतरणु । सष्टश्लाघा विनियोगु ।

भागा न्हणे भीरणु । मी ना म्हणें हो ! ॥ १७-३८५

ना भीचि जरी म्हणें । तरी भीरणी दूजें हेंचि जणें ।

म्हणीनि हें बोलणें । देवाचेची ॥ १७-३८६

Such is the esoteric application of the world "SAT" says the Lord Himself and not 'I' 'Dnyanadeo' the commentator. Whereas, if I own it as my statement it would amount to disowning my identity with the Lord. And hence this writing is the dictation of the Lord Himself. Thus the Saint boldly asserts that Dnyaneshwari as well as the Celestial Song—the Bhagvadgita are the utterances of the Lord Himself. And the Celestial Song has been composed by Shri Maharshi Veda Vyasa. And, therefore, all the three are one and the same entity.

Now the Saint says—

तैसे नवमी कृष्णाचें बोलणें । ते नवमीचियाचि ऐसे मी म्हणें ।
या निवाडा तत्त्वज्ञ जाणे । जया गीतार्थ हाती ॥ १०-३९

The Lord's advice in the ninth chapter is incomparable. There can be possibly nothing like it to compare. But then this statement can be appreciated by those alone who have grasped full insight into the import of the Sanskrit Celestial Song.

Thus, Dnyaneshwari as well as the Celestial Song are both the Utterances of the Lord Himself, and, therefore, to extol the former at the cost of the latter amounts to lacking the capacity to grasp the hidden import of the Sanskrit Celestial Song.

The Saint thus emphatically asserts that Shri Maharshi Veda Vyasa, the Author who has composed,

the Song, Lord Krishna, the Hero of the Song, and the Saint himself, are one and the same entity or rather they are the Trinity.

Further the Saint states in the eighteenth chapter as under:

तैसे अध्यात्मशास्त्री इये । अनराचि ऋधिकारिये ।

परी लोक वाक्चातुर्ये । होईल सुखिया ॥ १८-१७४९

That attitude of the mind, which involves a direct, immediate first hand intuitive apprehension of God, is necessary to be able to follow this spiritual science Whereas the average public will be hypnotised and superficially influenced by the style of the lucid expressions

This is in short the verdict of the Saint himself with respect to the composition of the Celestial Song and the commentary on the same, the Dnyaneshwari

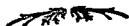
We take the liberty to cite below the parable of the lamb and close this extolling of Dnyaneshwari at the cost of the Celestial Song-the Bhagvadgita.

The Parable of a Lamb

A shepherd boy while grazing his sheep on a hill-top was in the habit of imitating the bleating of the lamb which he always carried in his arm Days rolled on and he became an adept in the imitation so much so that his performance was advertised and arranged in a theatre by the enthusiastic public.

After his performance, another comrade of his who carried a lamb concealed under his blanket, pricked the lamb and the lamb bleated aloud

The enthusiastic audience declared in one voice that the first imitation was unsurpassed. Thereupon, the comrade produced the genuine lamb before the Public; and Pin-drop Silence spread over the assembly.



APPENDIX-B Part

Hints for the study of Dnyaneshwari

The study of Dnyaneshwari should be exact, accurate and appropriate commentary on the Gita, and not as an independent monumental work in the Marathi language.

दन्तिनि दाम्बिकारे दास तिरोदधति सोऽपितत्रैव ।

जगति तथा परमात्मा परमात्मन्यपि जगत्तिरोदधते ॥

Definition of one's own Self- स्वात्मनिरूपणम् ९४

Shri Shankracharya says:—

Here is an elephant carved out of a piece of wood :

If you look at the elephant, the piece of wood is hidden from your sight; and vice versa Likewise, the over-Lord is out of sight, when the world stands before you, and when you have the vision of the Lord, the world vanishes from sight,

To a certain extent, the students of Dnyaneshwari appear to lose sight of the Sanskrit Verses of Gita which form the basis for the commentary. Dnyaneshwari is being worshipped read and studied and learnt by heart from A to Z forgetting the fact that it is all along the explanation of the Sanskrit Verses of the Gita

The Saint, himself also says :—

I am commanded by Lord Shrikrishna to expound the hidden meaning of the Sanskrit verses; and hence the Commentary is an exact and appropriate version of the apparent as well as the hidden meaning of the utterances of the Lord

It will be befitting, therefore, if an attempt is made to point out the peculiar style of the commentary in which the succeeding verses and chapters are linked to the preceding ones, to bring out the hidden import of the utterances.

1) Take for instance verses Nos 28 and 29 of the second chapter. At a glance the 29th verse seems difficult to be construed with the 28th.

However, after the necessary comments on the 28th verse are over, the Saint uses two more Ovis to bring out the hidden import and clearly establishes the relation between the two verses.

The Ovis are as under:—

जयाची आर्तीचि मोगित । विषयी त्यजिले संत ॥

जयालागीविरक्त । मनवासिये ॥ -१७०

दृष्टिमुनि जयाते । ब्रह्मचर्यादिव्रते ।

मुनीस्वर तपाते । आचरताची ॥ -१७१

Please refer to pages 28 and 29 of this volume for the English rendering of these two Ovis:

All these austerities are undergone for only one ideal; and that is the realisation of the self.

2) Pursuing the same line of reasoning, we come to verses Nos 27 and 28 of the fifth chapter. Please refer to pages 96 and 97 of this volume.

The practice of Yoga is summarised in these two verses. But Arjuna is not satisfied with this cryptic description and the Saint at the end of the fifth chapter uses twenty Ovis wherein Arjuna insists on a detailed description of the same practice and the Lord is pleased to satisfy him. Thus comes in the sixth chapter of the Song, as a sequel to the fifth one.

3) The sixth chapter is confined to the practice of meditation resulting in the realisation of the Self.

Self-realisation and what is it that is realised is graphically explained in the following Ovis :

Please refer to pages 116 and 117 of this volume

आम्ही साधन हे जें सांगितले । तेंचि शरीरी जिही केले ।

ते आमुचेनि पाहे आले । निर्वाळलेया ॥ ६-३२६

परब्रह्माचेनि रसे । देहाकृतीचियेनि मुसे ।

बोनीव जाहलें तैसे । दिगती आगें ॥ ३७

जरी हे प्रतीति हन अनरी फाके । तरी विदवचि हे अवघें शाके ।

तव अर्जुन म्हणे निके । सावचि जी हे ॥ ६-३२८

The Lord says —

Those, that will handle with dexterity the practice of Yoga expounded by Me, are sure to attain realisation and establish their identity with the Lord

The result will be the lustrous and refulgent manifestation of the soul assuming the form of Human Frame, in which so far lay deep hidden the individual spiriton of the seeker. When the seer thus realises the vision of the self or the Lord, he is no longer able to see the world behind the vision, which corroborated by Shri Shankaracharya in his Yoga Tarawali

See page 91 of Chapter V of this volume

This is the exposition of the hidden import or meaning of the utterances of the Lord

4) The importance of the Seventh Chapter of the Gita cannot be over-estimated or exaggerated. It serves as the connecting link between not only the sixth and the eighth chapters of the Gita, but also between all the succeeding ones to the end of the 16th Chapter.

Besides it lends substantial support to the statement that the ninth chapter takes a comprehensive review of all the Seven Hundred Verses of the Song, and this signalises the end of the first part.

The commentary on this seventh chapter is simply enchanting and invaluable.

Besides if we consider the introduction to the tenth chapter side by side with this commentary the riddle of the consistency of the Song is solved automatically. And we find the division of the Song

in two parts of nine chapters each and the relationship of the second as an appendix to the first

Now in the very first Ovi of the commentry on the seventh chapter, it is made emphatically clear that realisation of the Self is a condition precedent to have a comprehensive survey of the universal aspect of providence. The universal aspect is "तत्त्वतः ज्ञानम्" in verse No 3 or "विज्ञानम्" in the second verse and this is explained in the Seven Doctrines adumbrated in the succeeding verses from 4 to 19, which are explained in detail in chapters from 10 to 16 of the second part.

The evolution, existence and dissolution of the Human Beings in the animate category of the Universe is discussed in the three verses 27, 28 and 29.

And in verses 29 and 30 are mentioned the seven terms which are utterly inexplicable.

Here, the Saint at the end of the chapter exhaustively emphasises the importance of these seven terms in thirtyone Ovis and establishes the advent of the eighth chapter as a natural sequence.

The Saint says in the thirteenth chapter—

हैंमें जो न बहबरीं । पदापी कोर न साडी ।

मूढघनगीचिये जाडी । निमित्त आहूयो ॥ १३-८५४

I have conveyed the exact import of the Lord and, therefore my comments are not a loose rendering as I have been instrumental in expanding the meaning of the original verses to bring out their full connotation

The last Ovi of the 7th chapter is—

ऐसेनि नागरपणें । बोलुनिमे ते बोलणें ।
आइका ज्ञानदेवो म्हणे । निवृत्तीचा ॥

Please listen to the following words of the coming chapter (No 8) which shall signalise the termination of all further conversation'

Then comes in the eighth chapter explaining the seven terms which are the essence of the Churning of the Ocean of the Vedas and the last line of the last verse gives the message

योगी परस्थानमुपैतिचायम् ॥

A Yogin returns to the original abode from which he has sprung up

Then comes in the ninth chapter which takes a review of all the Seven Hundred Verses of the Song This is evident from the verses which begin the two chapters Nos 7 and 9

ज्ञानं तेऽहं सविज्ञानमिदं वक्ष्याम्यतेयतः ।
यज्ज्ञात्वा नेहभूयोज्यत् ज्ञातव्यमवशिष्यते ॥
इदं तु ते गुह्यतमं प्रवक्ष्याम्यनमूदये ।
ज्ञानं विज्ञानसहितं यज्ज्ञात्वा मोक्षयेन्मुखात् ॥

“ज्ञान” and “विज्ञान” are treated in both the chapters and knowledge of both these terms signifies the end of all knowledge in the world.

Then from the 10th to the end of the 16th chapter, we have explanations of the Seven Doctrines in the seventh chapter as stated above.

And the 17th and 18th chapters have been at length dealt with in the preface and synopsis, clearly indicating that the 17th is the corollary of the 16th and the 18th is in explanation of the 17th. Thus we get a clear idea of the consistency of the Gita chapters from the commentary.

However, the Saint himself creates a smoke screen following in the wake of Sbri Shankaracharya as quoted at the beginning and states in the 18th chapter as under:—

तैश्चे बध्नात्मतास्त्रीं यिये । अंतरंगं च अधिचारिये ।

परी लोकं वाक्चातुर्ये । ह्रीर्दल मुक्तिया ॥ १८-१७४९

Intuitive insight is essential to have a thorough grasp of this Science of Self-realisation, whereas the the common mass will be quite content with the superficial dexterity and lucidity of the expressions, without any concern for the hidden meaning or for the sequence of the story of the Song. But this amounts to carrying away the readers from the right track.

Thus it is evident that the commentary ought to be studied in relation to the verses of the Gita and not independently as a separate work, even though it is a monumental work by itself.

The first six chapters of the Song are a graded structure. The ninth chapter gives a comprehensive review. So also are the chapters from 10 to 16, which explain the Seven Doctrines adumbrated in chapter seven. The seventh, eighth and the seventeenth chapters appear in the eyes of many to be rather unimportant, whereas as the Saint has forcefully mentioned in the commentary, they are the strongest connecting links of the story. The more closely these three are studied along with the commentary, the more enlightened the student shall feel regarding the consistency of the Song

We shall take this occasion to reiterate a few salient characteristics or the outstanding features of the commentary and close with the showers of the Divine Grace as prayed for by Dnyanadeo and responded to by his master Nivrattinath.

Dnyanadeo for pleasure they say; but Dnyaneshwari is for Immersion.

ज्ञानदेवः स्वास्तः बुधाय ।

ज्ञानदेवो तु निमज्जनाय ॥

(1) Swami Ramdas says—

नानंददाया अनुभव । हाही वृत्तीचाचि स्वभाव ।

तदाकारी ठाव । वृत्तीसी नाही ॥ Dasbodha 7 3/42

The experience of joy or pleasure is only a phase of separate consciousness; whereas such joy also vanishes in the ultimate merger.

2) Self-Realisation is a condition precedent to the comprehensive survey of the Universal Aspect of Providence.

3) तद्विद्विप्रणिपातेन Chapter 4-34 This तत् is the name of the Lord to be secured from those who have a right to occupy a seat along with Brahmadeo. (Ch 17-23 verse)

4) The quality of Satwa is not capable by itself to lead the seeker to the Gate-way of Providence. The deficiency still remains and ought to be supplied on the way. He must necessarily have recourse to the name of the Lord as detailed above in No. 3

5) The name of the Lord is the means no doubt but at the same time it is also the end in itself i e. the almighty Lord It is just like the seed which develops into the sprout

6) The Universe appears and vanishes like surges rising on the surface of the ocean due to the presence of wind and this assumes the form of a water-wheel rotating on its axis filling jugs of water, emptying and refilling them in succession all along It is a non-stop cycle of births and deaths.

7) Lastly Dnyaneshwar Maharaj prays for Divine Grace as under :-

SHOWERING OF THE DIVINE GRACE

Saint Dnyaneshwar, as chorus of his commentary on the Son: invokes the blessings of the Almighty Lord as under:-

May the Over-Lord be pleased with the offering of this wreath of words in the form of this commentary and be further pleased to bestow His grace on the erring humanity as under !

May the wicked forget their crooked nature and may they be blessed with pious intentions !

May all beings in the world forget their inimical tendencies and be friends with each other !

May the evil actors be purged of their sinful nature and may the world shine forth with the resplendent glory of the chaste actions of all humanity and may the respective cravings of the yearning humanity be fulfilled to satiation !

May all beings in the world be blessed with the company of such high souls as are entirely devoted to the Almighty Lord; and finally may all beings be blessed with the company of such holy Saints whose characteristics are as under !

The Saints who are 'as it were, moving trees on earth yielding the desired fruits The Saints' who are as it were the residences built with living and moving precious stones, capable of fulfilling the yearnings residing in the deepest recesses of human beings. The Saints whose words are as it were oceans of nectar flowing from their lips on earth.'

The Saints who are the spotless Moons incarnate moving on earth, and who are as well the resplendent suns with refulgent yet cooling lustre,

With these solicitations on the part of Saint Dnyaneshwar, the master Nivrattinath was pleased to shower his bounteous grace overflowing with the fulfillment of all the foregoing solicitations'



APPENDIX C

Internal Evidence of the Original Approach

AS REVEALED BY SHRI DNYANADEO

The Song is constructed in two parts of nine chapters each and the second part serves as an appendix to the first one. The story proper is complete with the end of the 8th chapter, the ninth chapter giving a concise and precise review of all the Seven Hundred Verses of the Song.

The first chapter narrates the occasion for the Song, where Arjuna is painted as a hero stricken with terror at the sight of the affray which appeared to him to be the slaughter-house of the Lord of Death.

Arjuna declines to play his role of a warrior in the slaughter-house and assumes silence. Yet Lord Shrikrishna exhorts him with a smile. And thus his utterances are the subject matter of the Song Celestial. This reaction is tremendous and the Lord explains the situation by analysing the creation in general and emphasises the fact that the creation virtually reduces itself to the mere forms, which appear and disappear on the infinite Absolute Substratum known as the Akshara or Nirvana, reflecting a non-stop cycle of births and deaths in the case of the animate creation of all beings and the Human Beings in particular,

like a water-wheel constantly rotating on its axis, filling jugs of water emptying and re-filling them in succession. However, all this dissertation helps in no way to dispel the clouds of ignorance enveloping the disciple, unless it results in the manifestation of the Soul.

The Lord, therefore, in the second chapter opens before the disciple for actual achievement, the two avenues of the Path of Knowledge and the Path of Action leading to the Gateway of providence.

Verse No. 25 of the 2nd chapter of Song runs as under :-

अव्यक्तोऽयमचिन्त्योऽयमविकार्योऽयमुच्यते ।

तस्मादेन विदित्वैनं नानुशीचितुमर्हसि । २ २५

The Providence or Brahman is absolute, beyond imagination, unchangeable and hence when once you have realised the same, there shall be no ground for you to mourn over anything. The method of achievement of this ideal is described in verse No. 52 and the commentary thereunder, as follows :-

You will attain that height, which is beyond the scope of all description in words, when your intellect will transgress the veil of ignorance. Shrikrishna exhorts Arjuna that he would attain that state, when he would give up his ignorance and inculcate the spirit of genuine renunciation. This stage would automatically be followed by the advent

or birth of self-knowledge and thus his vision would be cleared up.

This is the philosophy of God-realisation which is "तत्त्वमसि"

Further in verse No 53, the Lord says:-

When your intellect confounded by the overmuch reading of the Vedas, comes to a stand-still and the intuition thus awakened is riveted on the realisation of your own self, then you will have attained that state when the Individual Soul will be linked with the Universal Soul, i. e. the Brahman Absolute. The mind and intellect confounded by their contact with the senses and the sense-objects, will gradually come to a stand-still and will be riveted on the realisation of their own self resulting from the awakening of the intuition. You will attain that state when the Individual Soul, will be united with the Universal Soul, when your mind and intellect will be calm and the intuition thus awakened will result in the manifestation of the Soul inside. Thus God-realisation is a process and not an end in itself. It leads to God Intoxication and final immersion in God.

The last two verses of the second chapter delineate the stages of God-Intoxication and final immersion in God, as under :-

(1) Such a person, being indifferent to sense objects, moves about void of all attachment and loses

all consciousness about his self and anything attached to the self. He realises that he is surrounded by Brahman on all sides

This is God-Intoxication “ अहं ब्रह्मास्मि ”

(2) This state of the individual is the final state of beatification and there he remains above all temptations and even when he has to cast off this tabernacle, he plunges headlong into the Infinite Brahman

This is God-Immersion सर्वं खलु इदं ब्रह्म ।

This is the philosophy of God-realisation, God-Intoxication and God-immersion.

तत्त्वमसि, अहं ब्रह्मास्मि, सर्वं खलु इदं ब्रह्म ;

आदौ ब्रह्माहमस्मीत्यनुभव उदिते खल्विदं ब्रह्म पश्चात्

century of verses श्रीशंकराचार्यः.

God-Intoxication precedes God-Immersion

Thus the three stages are a graded structure.

How to achieve this end forms part to the science of God-Realisation and this scientific explanation begins with the third chapter

When the picture of final beatification and immersion in God was painted by the Lord, Arjuna felt rather surprised as to why he was in spite of this ideal, exhorted by the Lord to follow the Path of Action and participate in the fight ahead of him, instead of following the Path of Knowledge or wisdom, which is a direct approach as the crow flies.

The reply was as under:—

A bird perches on the fruit of a tall tree with a single flight of its wings, whereas a human being could hardly achieve that speed. He would gradually in course of time achieve that end definitely no doubt provided he kept to the road all along. In the same manner the Sankhyas following the Path of 'Wisdom' instantaneously achieve liberation like Adya Shankaracharya, Shri Dnyaneshwar Maharaj and the like; whereas the Yogins following the Path of Action achieve perfection in course of time. While recommending the path of Action to Arjuna, the Lord was pleased casually to trace the origin of the Universe to the Absolute Substratum in verse No. 15 as

कर्मब्रम्होद्भवविद्धि ब्रम्हाक्षर समुद्भवम् ।

The duties are obtained by Brahman the Absolute or the Vedas. This two-fold aspect of the Brahman has its origin in the Infinite Absolute Substratum. The animate world or beings and the human beings in particular have sprung up from Brahman, which is traced to the Eternal Absolute ultimately.

Now the Human beings, while passing in this world through the cycle of births and deaths, have one day to seek their original abode which is "अक्षर ब्रह्म योग", the title of the eighth chapter. The intermediate chapters from the third to the eighth describe in detail the path to be followed by the aspirants to reach this goal.

Particularly the story of the Celestial Song begins with ब्रह्माक्षरसमुद्भवम् in the third chapter and ends with अक्षरं ब्रह्म योगानाम अष्टमोऽध्यायः । the title of the eighth chapter, the message being delivered in योगी परं स्थानमूर्पति चाद्यम् which is the last line of the last verse of the last chapter of the story proper. A Yogin returns to the original abode from which he has sprung up

Now in support of this statement we shall scan the intervening chapters

The third chapter as we have seen deals with action in general because the human frame is nothing but action personified. The fourth chapter links the actions with knowledge. And this knowledge has to be sought from persons who are adepts in the line.

तद्विद्धि प्रणिपातेन परिप्रश्नेन सेवया ।

उपदेश्यति ते ज्ञानं ज्ञानिनस्तत्त्वदर्शिनः । ४-३४

The real seers, says the Lord, will impart that knowledge unto you, provided you approach them with utmost humility, with readiness to offer any kind of service and with the eagerness and intensity to carry on conversation with them.

Yet what is it that they will be pleased to impart, is still a mystery and that mystery is revealed in the Seventeenth chapter in verse No. 23, where the name of the Lord is disclosed and it is emphatically made clear that the name is not only the means

to achieve the end but it is also the end in itself like the Seed and the Sprout.

पचमी गव्हरिले योगतत्त्व

Then comes in the fifth chapter which discloses the grades in the achievement of God-realisation in all the phases, in verses 17, 18 and 19 and towards the end expounds the means to achieve it in two verses nos. 27 and 28 summarily.

Arjuna is not satisfied with this cryptic description and he insists on an elaborate treatment of the same subject.

Hence comes in the sixth chapter which deals in detail with not only all the requirements, moral, social and spiritual, necessary for the achievement of God-realisation but describes the very nature of Realisation itself as under :—

आम्हीं साधन हे जे सांगितलें । तेचि शरीरी जिही केलें ।
 ते आमुचेनि पाडें आले । निर्वाळलेया ॥ ६-३२६ ॥
 परब्रह्माचेनि रसे । देहाकृतीचिये मुसे ।
 बोतीव जाहले तैसे । दिसती आगें ॥ ६-३२७ ॥
 जरी हे प्रतीति हन अतरी फाके । तरी विश्वचि हे अवधें झाके ।
 तव अर्जुन म्हणे निके । साचचि जी हे ॥ ६-३२८ ॥

The Lord says,

“ Those, that will handle with dexterity the practice of Yoga expounded by me, are sure to attain realisation and establish their identity with the Lord

The result will be the lustrous and refulgent manifestation of the Soul assuming the form of the Human Frame, in which so far lay deep hidden the individual spiriton of the Seeker. When the seer thus realises the vision of the Self or the Lord, he is no longer able to see the world behind the vision, which is corroborated by Shri Shankaracharya in his *Yoga-Tarawali*.

See page 91 chapter V of this volume.

Now this knowledge of Self i.e. ज्ञान is a condition precedent to the comprehensive view of the knowledge of the Universe i.e. विज्ञान and the two together comprise the entire extent of Knowledge beyond which nothing further remains to be known (See verses 1 and 2 of Chapter No VII) And this is the gist of the seventh chapter of the Song

The seventh chapter further adumbrates seven doctrines to explain the Vidyana or Tatwatas Dnyanam from verses Nos 4 to 19 and these are explained in detail in the seven chapters from 10 to 16 of the second part, as embodied in this volume in chapters seven to thirteen

Chapter fourteen of this volume deals with verses from 20 to the last verse No 30 and concludes with the Seven Terms which amount to the churning of the vast ocean of the Vedas

The eighth chapter of the Song is a natural sequence of the seventh chapter as it explains these Seven Terms and closes the story of the Song with

योगी पर स्थानमुपतिचाद्यम् ।

A Yogi returns to the original abode from which he has sprung up.

The same ज्ञान and विज्ञान of the seventh chapter form the subject matter of the ninth chapter and thus it becomes automatically the conclusion of the first part of the story.

The tenth chapter opens with the adverb again " Bhuyas " indicating the repetition of the same story by way of explanation and we find thus the same doctrine of the seventh chapter in three places viz the 7th, the 9th and one of the chapters from 10 to 16 of the second part.

To sum up the internal evidence we have the following items in order—

(I) The second chapter deals with the philosophy of God-Realisation, God-Intoxication and God-Immersion.

(II) The third chapter opens up with the means to achieve the end and gives the origin of the Universe as ब्रह्माक्षर समुद्भवम् । and the ladder of achievement ends with the title of the eighth chapter which is अक्षर ब्रह्मयोगो नाम उच्छिद्यमानः ।

III) The seventh chapter adumbrates Seven Doctrines which are explained in chapters from 10 to 16 of the second part

IV) The ninth chapter gives the review of the first eight chapters and sven of all the Seven Hundred verses of the Song, and emphasises the knowledge of ज्ञान and विज्ञान as referred to in chapter No VII

V) The seventh chapter signalises the closing of the Song in the very second verse saying that nothing further remains to be known when ज्ञान and विज्ञान have been explained

VI) Naturally the same doctrine appears three times in the Song Viz (1) in the seventh chapter, (2) in the ninth chapter, and (3) in one of the chapters from 10 to 16

VII) The tenth chapter i e the first chapter of the second part begins with the significant and pregnant adverb मूयस meaning " again ", i e repeating what is given in the first part

VIII) The fifth chapter mentions the योगतत्त्व and exp'ains the three stages of तत्त्वमसि अहंब्रह्मास्मि and सव खलु इदं ब्रह्म in verses Nos 17, 18 and 19 and in continuation, along with the moral social and spiritual equipment, the sixth chapter describes what is actually realised, in Self-realisation

IX) The achievement of all these three stages is indicated in verses Nos 7 27 and 28 of the eighth chapter

(X) The last verse of the second chapter of the Philosophy of God-realisation etc. is एषा ब्राह्मी स्थितिः। पापं

The last verse of the eighth chapter which is the termination of the science of God-Realisation is

वेदेषु यज्ञेषु तपस्सु चैव

Both these are differently worded only. Yet they signify the same meaning.

In the case of the former a Yogin does not condescend to fall back upon the pleasures accruing from the meritorious acts and in the case of the latter he despises them all and plunges headlong in the Brahman- the Absolute Substratum.

(XI) The ninth chapter is the conclusion of the story and the eighteenth chapter is the conclusion of the Appendix and in both we find the verse.

मन्मता भव मद्भक्तो मद्याजी मा नमस्कुर्व ।

मा मे वैष्यसि युक्त्वैवमात्मानं मत्परायण ॥ १।३४

मन्मता भव मद्भक्तो मद्याजी मा नमस्कुर्व ।

मा मे वैष्यसि सत्यं ते प्रतिजाने प्रियोऽसि मे ॥ १८।६५

And the substance of both of them amounts to the same import

(XII) This import in both the verses is the prescription and in the eighteenth chapter the prohibition also is emphasised.

It reads as under.:-

संबन्धमप्यित्यज्य मामेकं शरणं व्रज ।

अहं त्वां सर्वपापेभ्यो मोक्षयिष्यामि मा शुचः ॥

The former two verses state what is to be done and the latter one emphasises what is to be avoided. Thus *śāśa* and *śāśvā* are both necessary for the Path of Action in life; Prescription and Prohibition are both necessary.

Here *śāś* means actions and not religion

(XIII) In the second part, the 17th chapter becomes necessary as a corollary of the 16th and not otherwise

Similarly the 18th chapter becomes necessary to explain the doubts raised in the last verse of the 17th chapter; and in a way it is the continuation of the 17th chapter.

(XIV) The 18th chapter is regarded as the Song in one single chapter.

(XI) The difference between the 17th and the 18th chapters, however, is significant.

The ninth chapter comprises the Infinite Brahman along with the entire creation whereas the 18th chapter deals only with the involution or return journey of the human beings (of the animate category of the creation) to the Absolute Substratum. It summarises the procedures laid down in chapters Nos 5 and 6 of the Song.

This is in short the enumeration of the Internal Evidence in the Song



APPENDIX D

The seventh, eighth and seventeenth chapters form the strongest links in the chain of thoughts passing through the eighteen chapters of the Song and hence we take the liberty to quote verbatim the three chapters as the Appendix D

Dnyana, that is Realisation and Vidhyana, that is comprehensive view of the Universal Aspect of Providence, together leave nothing else to be known in the world; and between these two, the former is the essential condition precedent to the comprehensive view of the latter. As regards the former, the individual soul, as a matter of fact is prepared to accept the conditions of childhood, youth and old age of the Human Frame, wherein he resides for the time being, but when the time comes for discarding the frame, he mourns over even the mere idea of leaving it, due to its association for a very long interval. And to tide over this inevitable conception of mourning over the loss of the frame is the gist of the entire teaching of the song. And in the second chapter, verse No 25 reads as under :

अव्यक्तोऽयमचिन्त्योऽयमविचार्योऽयमुच्यते ।

तस्मादेव विदित्वैव नानुशोचितुमर्हसि ॥

Please refer to page 25 of the volume for the explanation.

अर्जुना ऐसा ही जानावा । सकलारम्भक देखावा ।'

मग सहजे शोक आघवा । हरेल तुझा ॥

You have to know him in all aspects and realise and experience His Vision. Then alone, you have no occasion to mourn over anything in the world.

The question naturally arises as to how to experience this vision of the Lord and the verse No. 52 states as under :

यदा ते मोहकलिल बुद्धिर्व्यतितरिष्यति ।
तदा गन्तासि निर्वेदं श्रोतव्यस्य श्रुतस्य च ॥

When the clouds of ignorance enveloping your intellect will melt away and the intellect will become transparent, then you will have transgressed all limits of what is already known or what remains still to be known; in the world The commentary on this verse reads as under : -

तू ऐसा तै होसी । जै मोहाते यमा साडिसी ॥
आणि धैराव्य मानसी सचरेल ॥
मग निष्कलक गहन । उपजल आत्मज्ञान ।
तेण निचाड होईल मन । आपैसे तु ॥

Shri Krishna exhorts Arjuna that he would also attain that state, when he would give up his ignorance and inculcate the spirit of genuine renunciation. This stage will automatically be followed by the advent or birth of self-knowledge and thus his vision would be cleared up. This is the Philosophy and this is God-Realisation.

three to six and origin of the Universe also traced in the third chapter in verse No. 15 as ब्रह्माक्षरं समुद्भूतम् and the study of the Song proper is closed with end of the eighth chapter entitled अक्षरं ब्रह्मयोगो नाम अष्टमोऽध्यायः ॥

Hearin we find that Dnyana or Realisation ends with sixth chapter and Vidnyana covers up the seventh and eight chapters. The ninth chapter takes a survey of both Dnyana and Vidnyana and hear ends the first part of the Song.

Chapters ten to sixteen explain the seven doctrines of Vidnyana adumbrated in verses from 4 to 19 in the seventh chapter and the seventeenth chapter comes in as a corollary to the sixteenth in explanation of the last verse which lays stress upon the rulings of the scriptures. And because there is a riddle created by diverse interpretations of these rulings of the scriptures, this chapter is intended to solve this riddle. Besides, this chapter throws light on the thirtyfourth verse of the fourth chapter viz. तद्विद्धि प्रणिपातेन etc. etc. clearly explaining that this Tat is the name of the Lord available from Master Minds occupying their seats on a line with Brahma himself and this is verse No. 23 of the seventeenth chapter. The last verse of the seventeenth chapter again raises doubts in the mind of Arjuna who is then tempted to reopen the question of actions done with devout devotion and those done mechanically in the absence of any internal faith. The

eighteenth chapter thus again takes a survey of the same original question that haunted the mind of Arjuna at the beginning, though now in a restricted sense only, in so far that the entire discussion is confined to the Involution of the Human Beings only.

To sum up, the seventh chapter adumbrates the seven doctrines of the Vidnyana and closes with the questionnaire of seven terms which amount to the cream or essence of the Vedas, the explanation of which gives rise to the eighth chapter, which closes the Song proper and ends with a conclusion, which is the gist of the Song, as well as that of the Vedas—योगी परस्थानमुपतिचायम्—A Yogin returns to the original abode from which he has sprung up. The seventeenth chapter comes in to explain the riddle of the scriptures which are held as the final authority for actions of the Human world as stated in last verse of the sixteen chapter. Simultaneously, in the last verse, the same chapter gives rise to the fruits of actions done with faith and those done mechanically as a show devoid of faith. Thus comes in as a sequence the eighteenth chapter to bridge over this abyss caused by want of faith in actions done mechanically. In short, the seventeenth chapter is a strengthening and tightening bond between the sixteen and the eighteenth chapters. It is thus the offspring of the sixteen and the parent of the eighteenth.

Hence do take the liberty of quoting verbatim these three chapters which have been

elaborately dealt with in the corpus of the Book. The ninth chapter is the summing up of the story proper. The eighteenth chapter is the summing up of the Appendix. Thus the eighteen chapters of the Song can be split up in two parts, the latter one serving as an appendix to the former, and inspite of the theory of interpolations or of different authors for the Seven Hundred Verses, one fact is certain that the seven hundred verses of the Song, as split up in two parts, are like steps of a ladder rising one above the other and the verses as well as the chapters are a complete story and form a single wreath of thoughts as an inflorescence like the parents and their offsprings, whosoever may regarded as the genuine Author or Authors of the Song

Chapter VII

श्री भगवानुवाच

मय्यासक्तमनाः पार्थ योऽं युञ्जन्मदाश्रयः ।
 असंशय समग्रं मां स्यान्नास्यसि तच्छृणु ॥ १
 ज्ञान तेऽहं सविज्ञातमिदं वक्ष्याम्यशेषतः ।
 यज्ज्ञात्वा नेह भूयोऽन्यज्ज्ञातव्यमवशिष्यते ॥ २
 मनुष्याणां सहस्रेषु कश्चिद्यत्नति सिद्धये ।
 यततामपि सिद्धानां कश्चिन्मां वेत्ति तत्त्वतः ॥ ३
 भूमिगोऽनलो वायुः खं मनो बुद्धिरेव च ।
 अहकार इतीय मे भिन्ना प्रकृतिरष्टधा ॥ ४

अपरेयमितस्त्वन्यां प्रकृतिं विद्धि मे पराम् ।
 जीवभूता महाबाहो यपेद धार्यते जगत् ॥ ५
 एतद्योनीनि भूतानि सर्वाणीत्युपधारय ।
 अहं कृत्स्नस्य जगतः प्रभवः प्रलयस्तथा ॥ ६
 मत्तः परतरं नान्यत्किञ्चिदस्ति धनञ्जय ।
 मयि सर्वमिदं प्रोक्तं सूत्रे मणिगणा इव ॥ ७
 रसाऽहमप्सु कौन्तेय प्रभास्मि शशिसूर्ययोः ।
 प्रणवः सर्ववेदेषु शङ्खः खः पौरुषं नृप ॥ ८
 पुण्यो गन्धः पृथिव्या च तेजश्चास्मि विभावसो ।
 जीवनं सर्वभूतेषु तपश्चास्मि तपस्विषु ॥ ९
 बीजं मा सर्वभूतानां विद्धि पार्थ सनातनम् ।
 बुद्धिर्बुद्धिमतामस्मि तेजस्तेजस्विनामहम् ॥ १०
 बलं बलवता चाहं कामरागविवर्जितम् ।
 धर्माविरुद्धो भूतेषु कामोऽस्मि भरतर्षभ ॥ ११
 ये चैव सात्त्विका भावा राजसास्तामसाश्च ये ।
 मत्त एवेति तान्विद्धि न त्वहं तेषु ते मयि ॥ १२
 त्रिभिर्गुणमयैर्भावैरेभिः सर्वमिदं जगत् ।
 मोहितं नाभिजानाति मामेभ्यः परमव्ययम् ॥ १३
 देवो ह्येषा गुणमयी मम माया दुरत्यया
 मामेव ये प्रपद्यन्ते मायामेता तरन्ति ते ॥ १४
 न मा दुष्कृतिनो मूढा प्रपद्यन्ते नराधमाः ।
 माययापहतज्ञाना आसुर भावमाश्रिताः ॥ १५
 चतुर्विधा भजन्ते मां जनाः सुकृतिनोऽर्जुन ।
 आर्तो जिज्ञासुरर्थार्थी ज्ञानी च भरतर्षभ ॥ १६
 तेषां ज्ञानी नित्ययुक्त एकभक्तिविशिष्यते ।
 प्रियो हि ज्ञानिनोऽत्यर्थमहं स च मम प्रियः ॥ १७

उदाराः सर्वं एवैते ज्ञानी त्वात्मैव मे मतम् ।
 आस्थितः सहियुक्तात्मा मामेवानुत्तमां गतिम् ॥ १८
 बहूनां जन्मनामन्ते ज्ञानवान्मा प्रपद्यते ।
 वासुदेवः सर्वमिति स महात्मा सुदुर्लभः ॥ १९
 कामैस्तैस्तैर्हन्तज्ञानाः प्रपद्यन्तेऽन्यदेवताः ।
 त त नियममास्थाय प्रकृत्या नियताः स्वया ॥ २०
 यो यो यां यां तनुं भक्तः श्रद्धयाचितुमिच्छति ।
 तस्य तस्याचलां श्रद्धां तामेव विदधाम्यहम् ॥ २१
 स तया श्रद्धया युक्तस्तस्याराधनमीहते ।
 लभते च ततः कामान्मयैव विहितान्हि तान् ॥ २२
 अन्तवत्तु फलं तेषां तद्भवत्यल्पमेधसाम् ।
 देवान्देवयजो यान्ति मद्भूवता यान्ति मामपि ॥ २३
 अव्यक्तं व्यक्तमापन्नं मन्यन्ते मामबुद्धयः ।
 परं भावमजानन्तो ममाव्ययमनुत्तमम् ॥ २४
 नाहं प्रकाशः सर्वस्य योगमायासमावृतः ।
 मूढोऽयं नाभिजानाति लोको मामजमव्ययम् ॥ २५
 वेदाहं समतीतानि वर्तमानानि चार्जुन ।
 भविष्याणि च भूतानि मां तु वेद न कश्चन ॥ २६
 इच्छाद्वेषसमुत्थेन द्वन्द्वमोहेन भारत ।
 सर्वभूतानि संमोहं सर्गे यान्ति परंतप ॥ २७
 येषां त्वन्तगतं पापं जनानां पुण्यकर्मणाम् ।
 ते द्वन्द्वमोहनिर्मुक्ता भजन्ते मां दृढप्रताः ॥ २८
 जरामरणमोक्षाय मामाश्रित्य यतन्ति ये ।
 ते ब्रह्म तद्विदुः कृत्स्नमध्यात्मं कर्म पातिसम् ॥ २९
 साधिभूताधिदैवं मां साधियज्ञं च ये विदुः ।
 प्रयाणकालेऽपि च मां ते विदुर्युग्जपेत्ततः ॥ ३०

Chapter VIII

अर्जुन उवाच

किं तद्ब्रह्म किमध्यात्म किं कर्म पुरुषोत्तम ।
अधिभूत च किं प्रोक्तमधिदैवं किमुच्यते ॥ १
अधियज्ञः कथं कोऽत्र देहेऽस्मिन्मधुसूदन ।
प्रयाणकाले च कथं ज्ञेयोऽसि नियतात्मभिः ॥ २

श्रीभगवानुवाच

अक्षर ब्रह्म परम स्वभावोऽध्यात्ममुच्यते ।
भूतभावोद्भवकरो विसर्गः कर्मसंज्ञितः ॥ ३
अधिभूत क्षरो भावः पुरुषश्चाधिदैवतम् ।
अधियज्ञोऽहमेवात्र देहे देहभूता जडः ॥ ४
अन्तकाले च मामेव स्मरन्मुक्त्वा कलेवरम् ।
यः प्रयाति स मद्भावं याति नास्त्यत्र सशयः ॥ ५
यं यः वापि स्मरन्भावं त्यजत्यन्ते कलेवरम् ।
तः तमेवंति क्रींस्तेयः सदा तद्भावमाव्रितः ॥ ६
तस्मात्सर्वेषु कालेषु मामनुस्मर्य युध्य ज ।
मय्यर्पितमनोबुद्धिसंनिवेश्यस्यसंशयः ॥ ७
अभ्यासयोगयुक्तेन चेतसा नान्मयापिना ।
परमं पुरुषं दिव्यं याति पार्थानुचिन्तयन् ॥ ८
कविं पुराणमनुशासितात्मणोरणीयांसमनुस्वरेजः ।
सर्वस्य धातारमचित्तरूपमाद्रित्सवर्णं तस्य सः परस्तात् ॥ ९
प्रयाणकाले मनसाज्जलेत भक्त्या युक्तो योगबलैस्तैर्व्रतैः ।
भ्रुवोर्मध्ये प्राणमावेश्य सम्यक् संततं परं पुरुषमुपैति दिव्यम् ॥ १०
यदक्षरं वेदविदो ब्रुवन्ति त्रिशक्तिर्यद्गतयो वीतरागाः ।
यदिच्छन्तो ब्रह्मचर्यं चरन्ति तत्ते पदं मगधेण प्रवक्ष्ये ॥ ११

सर्वद्वाराणि संयम्य मनो हृदि निरुध्य च ।
 मूर्ध्न्याघ्रायात्मनः प्राणमास्थितो योगधारणाम् ॥ १२
 ओमित्येकाक्षर ब्रह्म व्याहरन्मामनुस्मरन् ।
 यः प्रयाति त्यजन्देहं स याति परमो गतिम् ॥ १३
 अनन्यचेताः सततं यो मां स्मरति नित्यशः ।
 तस्याह सुलभः पार्थ नित्ययुक्तस्य योगिनः ॥ १४
 मामुपेत्य पुनर्जन्म दुःखालयमशाश्वतम् ।
 नाप्नुवन्ति महात्मानः संसिद्धिं परमां गताः ॥ १५
 आब्रह्मभुवनाल्लोकाः पुनरावर्तिनोऽर्जुन ।
 मामुपेत्य तु कौन्तेय पुनर्जन्म न विद्यते ॥ १६
 सहस्रत्रयुगपर्यन्तमहर्षत्ब्रह्मणो विदुः ।
 रात्रिं युगसहस्रान्तां तेऽहोरात्रविदो जनाः ॥ १७
 अव्यक्ताद्व्यक्तयः सर्वाः प्रभवन्त्यहरागमे ।
 रात्र्यागमे प्रलीयन्ते तत्रैवाव्यक्तसंज्ञके ॥ १८
 भूतग्रामः स एवायं भूत्वा भूत्वा प्रलीयते ।
 रात्र्यागमेऽवशः पार्थ प्रभवत्यहरागमे ॥ १९
 परस्तस्मान्नु भावोऽन्योऽव्यक्तोऽव्यक्तात्सनातनः ।
 यः सर्वेषु भूतेषु नश्यत्सु न विनश्यति ॥ २०
 अव्यक्तोऽक्षर इत्युक्तस्तमाहुः परमां गतिम् ।
 यं प्राप्य न निवर्तन्ते तद्धाम परमं मम ॥ २१
 पुरुषः स परः पार्थ भक्त्या लभ्यस्त्वनन्यया ।
 यस्यान्तः स्थानि भूतानि येन सर्वमिदं ततम् ॥ २२
 यत्र काले त्वनावृत्तिमावृत्तिं चैव योगिनः ।
 प्रयाता यान्ति तं कालं वक्ष्यामि भरतर्षभ ॥ २३
 अग्निर्ज्योतिर्गृहः दुक्लाः पण्मासा उत्तरायणम् ।
 तत्र प्रयाता गच्छन्ति ब्रह्म ब्रह्मविदो जनाः ॥ २४

धूमो रात्रिस्तथा कृष्णः पणमासा दक्षिणायनम् ।
 तत्र चान्द्रमसं ज्योतिर्योगी प्राप्य निवर्तते ॥ २५
 शुक्लकृष्णे गतो ह्येते जगतः शाश्वते मते ।
 एकया यात्यनावृत्तिमन्ययावर्तते पुनः ॥ २६
 नेते सूतो पार्थ जानन्योगी मुह्यति कश्चन ।
 तस्मात्सर्वेषु कालेषु योगयुक्तो भवार्जुन ॥ २७
 वेदेषु यज्ञेषु तपःसु चैव दानेषु यत्पुण्यफलं प्रदिष्टम् ।
 अत्येति तत्सर्वमिदं विदित्वा योगी परं स्थानमुपैति चाद्यम् ॥ २८

Chapter XVII

अर्जुन उवाच

ये शास्त्रविधिमुत्सृज्य यजन्ते श्रद्धयान्विताः ।
 तेषां निष्ठा तु का कृष्ण सत्त्व माहो रजस्तमः ॥ १

श्रीभगवानुवाच

त्रिविधा भवति श्रद्धा देहिनां सा स्वभावजा ।
 सात्त्विकी राजसी चैव तामसी चेति तां शृणु ॥ २
 सत्त्वानुरूपा सर्वस्य श्रद्धा भवति भारत ।
 श्रद्धामयोज्य पुरुषो यो यच्छ्रद्धः स एव सः ॥ ३
 यजन्ते सात्त्विका देवान्यक्षरक्षांसि राजमाः ।
 प्रेतान्भूतगणाश्चान्ये यजन्ते तामसा जनाः ॥ ४
 अशास्त्रविहितं घोरं तप्यन्ते ये तपो जनाः
 दम्भाहंकारसंयुक्ताः कामरागबलान्वितः ॥ ५
 कर्षयन्तः शरीरस्थं भूतग्राममचेतसः ।
 मां चैवान्तःशरीरस्थं तान्विद्वद्यासुरनिश्चयान् ॥ ६
 आहारस्त्वपि सर्वस्य त्रिविधो भवति प्रियः ।
 यज्ञस्तपस्तथा दानं तेषां भेदमिमं शृणु ॥ ७

आयुःसत्त्वबलारोग्यसुखप्रीतिवर्धनाः ।
 रस्याः स्निग्धाः स्थिरा हृद्या, आहाराः सात्त्विकप्रियाः ॥ ८
 कट्वलम्ललवणात्युष्णतीक्ष्णरूक्षाविदाहिनः ।
 आहारा राज्यसस्येष्टा दुःखशोकामयप्रदाः ॥ ९
 यातयामं गतरसं पूति पर्युषितं च यत् ।
 उच्छिष्टमपि चामेध्यं भोजनं तामसप्रियम् ॥ १०
 अफलाकांक्षिभिर्यज्ञो विधिदृष्टो य इज्यते ।
 यष्टव्यमेवेति मनः समाधाय स सात्त्विकः ॥ ११
 अभिसंधाय तु फलं दम्भायंमपि चैव यत् ।
 इज्यते भरतश्रेष्ठ तं यज्ञं विद्धि राजसम् ॥ १२
 विधिहीनमसृष्टान्नं मन्त्रहीनमदक्षिणम् ।
 श्रद्धाविरहितं यज्ञं तामसं परिचक्षते ॥ १३
 देवद्विजगुरुप्राज्ञपूजनं शौचमार्जवम् ।
 ब्रह्मचर्यमहिंसा च क्षारीरं तप उच्यते ॥ १४
 अनुद्वेगकरं वाक्यं सत्यं प्रियहितं च यत् ।
 स्वाध्यायाभ्यासनं चैव वाङ्मयं तप उच्यते ॥ १५
 मनःप्रसादः सौम्यत्वं मौनमात्मविनिग्रहः ।
 भावसंशुद्धिरित्येतत्तपो मानसमुच्यते ॥ १६
 श्रद्धया परया तप्तं तपस्तत्रिविधं नरैः ।
 अफलाकांक्षिभिर्युक्तैः सात्त्विकं परिचक्षते ॥ १७
 सत्कारमानपूजार्थं तपोदम्भेन चैव यत् ।
 क्रियते तदिह प्रोक्तं राजसं चलमध्रुवम् ॥ १८
 मूढग्राहेणात्मनो यत्पीडया क्रियते तपः ।
 परस्योत्सादनार्थं वा तत्तामसमुदाहृतम् ॥ १९
 दातव्यमिति यद्दानं दीयतेऽनुपकारिणे ।
 देशे काले च पात्रे च तद्दानं सात्त्विकं स्मृतम् ॥ २०

यत्तु प्रत्युपकारार्थं फलमुद्दिश्य वा पुन ।
 दीयते च परिविलष्ट तद्दानं राजस स्मृतम् ॥ २१
 अदेशकाले यद्दानमपात्रेभ्यश्च दीयते ।
 असत्कृतमवज्ञात तत्तामसमुदाहृतम् ॥ २२
 ॐ तत्सदिति निर्देशो ब्रह्मणस्त्रिविध स्मृत ।
 ब्राह्मणास्तेन वेदाश्च यज्ञाश्च विहिताः पुरा ॥ २३
 तस्मादोमित्युदाहृत्य यज्ञदानतृण क्रिया ।
 प्रवर्तन्ते विभ्रानोक्ता सततं ब्रह्मवादिनाम् ॥ २४
 तदित्यनभिसंधाय फलं यज्ञतप क्रिया ।
 दानक्रियाश्च विविधा क्रियन्तेमोक्षकाक्षिभिः ॥ २५
 सद्भावे साधुभावे च सदित्येतत्प्रयुज्यते ।
 प्रशस्ते कर्मणि तथा सच्छब्दं पार्थ युज्यते ॥ २६
 यज्ञे तपसि दाने च स्थिति सदिति चोच्यते ।
 कर्म चैव तदर्थीय सदित्येवाभिधीयते ॥ २७
 अथद्वया हुत दत्त तपस्तप्त कृत च यत् ।
 असदित्युच्यते पार्थ न च तत्प्रेत्य नो इह ॥ २८

THE END

